

## **CHAPTER 73 : THE GREAT DAY OF JUDGMENT, AND THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH**

Thankfully, God will cut short those final days of treachery, when Satan has been released on earth. And Christ will return to rescue His people. Christ's First Advent was a precursor to and foreshadowing of His Second Advent. The gospel promises will be fully realized when Christ returns again. As we read, "unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings" (Malachi 4:2).

Jesus Christ will then come to judge the earth in righteousness:

"... fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet [are], and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is [the book] of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:9-15)

This describes the Great Day of Judgment, which is so often prophesied in scripture. God's temporal judgments were preparatory types for this Great Day of Judgment.

And then He will usher in the new heaven and new earth:

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new..." (Revelation 20:1-5)

So Jesus Christ will be physically present with His people on the new earth forevermore. In this new order "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

This is what the elect of God have long hoped for. All the trials were but preparation for this glorious end, when the people of God will dwell with their Savior and Lord forever.  
Thy Kingdom Come!

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### CHAPTER 73 : THE GREAT DAY OF JUDGMENT, AND THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH

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Philip Schaff, *History of the Christian Church* (Logos Research Systems, Inc.: Oak Harbor, WA, 1997). (see electronic version at <http://www.ccel.org/s/schaff/history/About.htm> )

J. Parnell McCarter, *Sabbath Bible Survey Tests and Assignments* (PHSC: Grand Rapids, MI, 2003). (see electronic version at <http://www.puritans.net/curriculum/> )

J. Parnell McCarter, *Let My People Go* (PHSC: Grand Rapids, MI, 2003). (see electronic version at <http://www.puritans.net/curriculum/> )

The on-line resources of Historicism Research Foundation at <http://www.historicism.net/> also proved invaluable for my understanding of Biblical prophecy. Biblical prophecy concerning Christian church history, especially as revealed in the book of Revelation, serves as the foundation upon which all church histories should be based.