

“Earthly Obedience and Eternal Living”

Revelation 20:11-15

Revelation 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. 13 And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. 14 Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

What is the Connection Between Obedience and Salvation?

1. Our obedience will not earn us salvation.

(Romans 3:20; 3:28; 8:1)

2. Our obedience is a confirmation of our union with Christ.

(2 Peter 1:10; 1 John 2:1-3; Hebrews 10:35)

3. We will be rewarded for our obedience in the age to come.

What does the Bible say about Judgment and Rewards?

1. Everyone—both non-Christians and Christians—will be judged for their deeds.

(Revelation 20:11-15; Romans 14:10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:10)

2. God is completely just in his judgment.

(Ecclesiastes 12:14; Matthew 12:36; Luke 12:2-3)

3. Varying degrees of punishment await the wicked.

(Revelation 20:11-15; Luke 12:47-48; John 19:11; Matthew 11:22-24; Romans 2:6, 8-9; Luke 20:47)

4. Varying degrees of blessedness await the children of God.

(1 Corinthians 4:5; 3:12-15; Matthew 5:11-12; 6:1-4; 2 Corinthians 9:6; Luke 14:12-14; 1 Peter 1:6-7; Ephesians 6:8)

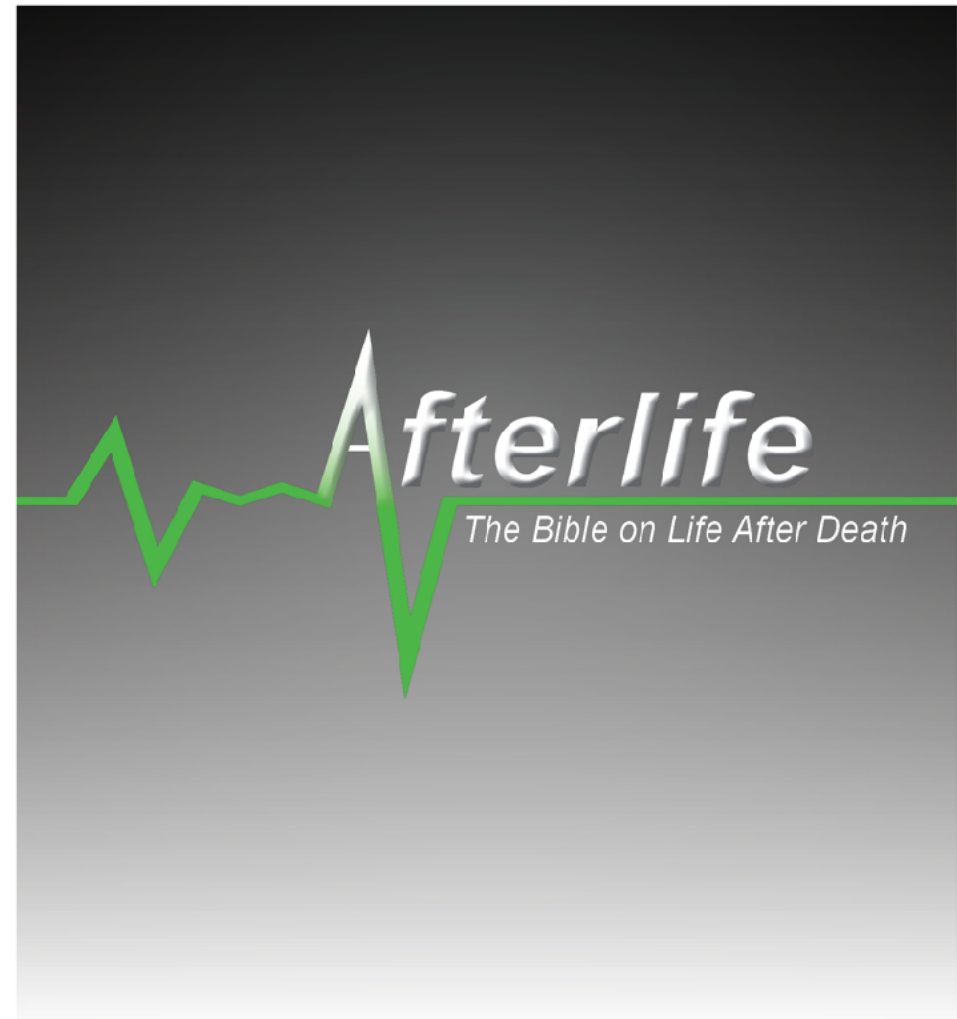
5. We will be rewarded with glory and authority.

(1 Corinthians 15:41; Luke 19:17-19)

Sermon Discussion Questions

1. What does the Bible teach us about our obedience and salvation? What do we mean when we say that obedience "confirms" our union with Christ (cf. 1 John 2:1-6)?
2. How does the idea of final judgment comfort us when we face injustice? Are there any injustices that you need to entrust to God and his justice?
3. Have you thought about the final judgment of believers before? How has this sermon changed or affirmed your thinking?
4. How does final judgment for believers motivate us to obedience today?
5. Take some time to discuss what it will be like in the day of final judgment. What secret works will you be proud of? What secret things will be burned up but covered by the blood of Jesus?
6. **Read Matthew 6:1-4.** Jesus seems to use rewards as a legitimate motivation for obedience. How is this freeing?
7. **Read Matthew 5:11-12; 6:1-4; 2 Corinthians 9:6; Luke 14:12-14; 1 Peter 1:6-7; Ephesians 6:8.** What do these verses tell us about how to accumulate more rewards in the New Creation?
8. **Read Hebrews 10:24-25.** How can you help and encourage others to increase their reward through obedience in the age to come?

How you choose to live today determines your blessedness in eternity.



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August 27, 2017

Sundays

Worship Service



9:30 a.m.