



## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES

### THE JUDGMENTS OF THE NATIONS & GREAT WHITE THRONE

HOMEWORK: READ CHAPTER 49

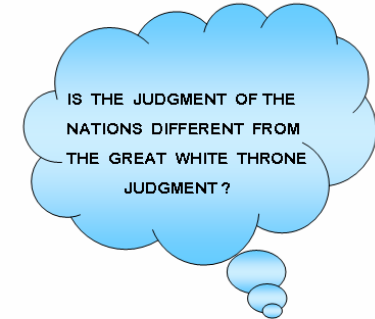
- 41 The Sabbath and the Lord's Day
- 42 The Gentiles in History and Prophecy
- 43 Israel in History and Prophecy
- 44 Events Preceding the Second Coming of Christ
- 45 The Great Tribulation
- 46 The Second Coming of Christ
- 47 The Resurrections
- 48 The Judgment of Israel and the Nations
- 49 The Millennial Kingdom
- 50 The Judgment of Satan and Fallen Angels
- 51 The Judgment of the Great White Throne
- 52 The New Heaven and the New Earth



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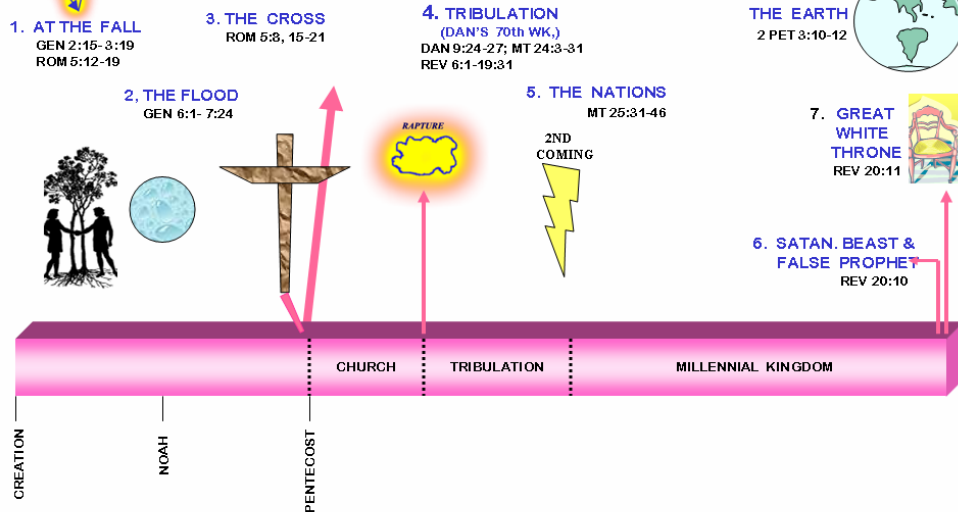
#### CRITICAL QUESTIONS



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#### MAJOR JUDGMENTS BY GOD



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#### COMPARISONS WHICH DISTINGUISH THE TWO

	The Nations (Matt. 25:31-46)	The Great White Throne (Rev. 20:11-15)
1. Time:	Immediately after the Tribulation & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Advent Before the Millennium - When He comes in glory - He takes & sits on throne - Matt. 24:29-31; 25:31 - (Matt. 25:31-35)	Immediately after the Millennial Kingdom - Rev. 20:7-11 - He leaves earth & earthly throne for the G.W.T.
2. Place:	On earth- Matt. 25:31; Zech. 14:3, 4, 9, 16; Joel 3:2, 12	Somewhere in the heavens before the G.W.T. - Rev. 20:11
3. Subjects:	The living (all nations) - Matt. 25:32	The dead (from all ages) - Rev. 20:12,13
4. Basis:	Acceptance / Rejection of Christ a. Believers - works out from faith - Mt. 25:34-40,46; Eph. 2:8-10 b. Unbelievers - no works out from faith - Mat.25:41-46; John 13:20	Rejection of Christ a. Unbelievers - not in the Book of Life - Rev. 20:12,15; Ex. 32:32,33; Ps. 69:28 b. Unbeliever - their works (self-righteousness) are judged from the Book(s) of Works & not accepted by Christ - Rev. 20:12-13
5. Conditions:	a. No resurrection mentioned b. No books mentioned c. Separation is made & judgment given before the reason is stated - Matt 25:32-34	a. Resurrection mentioned b. Books mentioned c. Books carefully examined & judgment given after the reason stated - Rev. 20:11-15
6. Judge:	Son of Man = Lord Jesus Christ - Matt. 25:31	Lord Jesus Christ - Rev. 20:11; John 5:22
7. Results:	a. Believers to Kingdom and to eternal life - Matt. 25:34 - Matt. 25:46 b. Unbelievers to lake of fire - Matt. 25:41	Unbelievers to lake of fire - Rev. 20:14,15



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#### Matthew 24 & 25 - Comments on Interpretations:

- The Olivet Discourse is one of the toughest passages to translate. There is more scholarly controversy on this passage than any other in the synoptic gospels.
- There is a wide spectrum of views concerning when the chronological events occur. e.g.
  - Some translators say that most of the events in Matt. 24 have already occurred
  - Other translators say none of the events in Matt. 24 have occurred yet
  - While others are somewhere in between
- An important key to interpreting Matt. 24 & 25 is to understand the setting & background of the Discourse by our Lord.
  - In Matt 23:1-36 - the Lord Jesus Christ reveals the hearts of Israel's religious leaders (the Scribes & Pharisees) and condemns them by eight woes.
  - In Matt. 23:37 - our Lord lovingly laments over the Temple, the City and the People
  - In Matt. 23:38, 29 - The Lord announces that the Temple was now being abandoned (by the physical manifestation of the Shekinah Glory of God = Jesus Christ Himself) & His glory would not return until Christ comes again at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming
  - In Matt. 24:1 - the Disciples thought Christ was saying that the Temple was being abandoned by all the beautiful gifts & decorations thus they missed our Lord's point entirely!
  - In Matt 24:2 - Christ then addresses the Temple, gifts, & decorations, saying that they will be utterly destroyed (fulfilled in 70 A.D.)
  - In Matt. 24:3 The disciples ask three major questions concerning their recent discussion & previous teachings by the Lord.



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#### Matthew 24:3 - The Disciples' Three Questions

QUESTION	REASON OR SOURCE OF QUESTION	THE LORD'S ANSWER
1. "When shall these things be?" (i.e. destruction of the Temple)	The Lord's statement that the Temple would be destroyed - Matt. 24:2	Matthew did not record the answer-but Luke did - Lu. 21:20-24 (key: Lu. 21:24 "they shall be led away captive into all nations")
2. "What shall be the sign of thy coming?"	The Lord said that the Jews would not see Him again until they recognize Him as their Messiah at the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Coming - Matt. 23:39	Immediately after the Tribulation (Daniel's 70 <sup>th</sup> Week) - Mt. 24:29-51
3. "What shall be the sign of the end (sunteleia) of the age?" (i.e. consummation = Dan's 70 <sup>th</sup> Week)	The Lord had previously taught the disciples the mysteries of the Kingdom (i.e. the course of events in general between the two Advents & also the consummation (sunteleia) which would occur just before His 2 <sup>nd</sup> Advent - Matt. 13:1-52 sunteleia - Matt. 13:39, 40, 49	Seven year period prior to his 2 <sup>nd</sup> Advent - there would be a multitude of signs - Matt. 24:4-28



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#### COMPARISON OF FLOOD & TRIBULATION JUDGMENTS

ASPECT	FLOOD	TRIBULATION
1. Length of judgment	Very short - days	Very long - up to 7 years
2. Forms of judgment	One - flood	Numerous - wars, famine, persecution, hail, fire, torment, cosmic catastrophes, locusts, slaughter, Satanic persecution, etc.
3. Man's response to judgment	Desire to save their lives	Desire to commit suicide - Rev. 9:6
4. Warning of judgment	Noah's preaching for 120 years	Scripture's teaching for approximately 3000 yrs.
5. Man's response to warning	None (but 8 believed)	Countless number suffer - many believe - many reject
6. Destiny of unbelievers immediately after the judgment	Prison (torment part of Sheol) - 1 Pet. 3:19	Lake of fire - Matt. 25:41,43

#### FLOOD & 2<sup>ND</sup> COMING COMPARISON - Matt. 24:36-41

ITEM	"as the day of Noah were..." FLOOD	"so shall the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Coming be" 2 <sup>ND</sup> COMING
1. Exact timing	No one knew day or hour	No one knows day or hour - 24:36
2. General timing	120 years - Gen. 6:1-8	During "these things" of tribulation - 24:32-33; 4-28
3. Conditions	Wickedness of men - Gen. 6:1-8	Wickedness of men - 24:4-28
4. Attitudes of men	Indifference to God - Gen. 6:1-8	Indifference to God - 2 Thess. 2:1-7
5. God's response	Sends judgment to earth & man - Gen. 6-Gen. 8	Sends judgment to earth & man - 24:4-28; Rev. 4 - Rev. 20; Matt. 25:31-46