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THE JUDGMENT IS COMING
By Edward A. Fergerson

A Sermon Preached by E. A. Fergerson
At Salvation Park Campmeeting,
Cincinnati, Ohio, June 25, 1904

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ABOUT THIS DIGITAL PUBLICATION

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Scripture Reading

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

And east him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed for a little season.

And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them: and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and

which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they reigned with Christ a thousand years.

But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and 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 brimstones 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 its 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.

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This 20th chapter of Revelation is a picture of the truth, and you and I must face it. The Judgment day is coming to everyone of us. It will be a day when God will put men in His golden balances and weigh them. If this Bible is true that I hold in my hand, if this is the inspired Word of the eternal God that made this world, (and John 10:35: says it cannot be broken) if this word be true, the Judgment day is going to be an awful time. Man cannot conceive of what it will be; God calls it "the great day." "The great day of His wrath is come." Brother, I know if people could be weighed according to their own weights and measures, the majority of mankind are going to be saved; nearly everybody is going to Heaven. But if this Book is true and we have to measure ourselves by this line and plummet then the majority of people in the world tonight are

on the road to a devil's hell. They will land there as certain as God is in Heaven tonight, unless they repent. We must meet Bible conditions and Bible requisites. God is no respecter of persons. Everybody must face what the Bible says. God puts us in the golden balances on that day, then puts this Word over on the other side, and unless we have the blood of Jesus Christ on our souls, and His imparted righteousness we will never go through the pearly gates.

One class of people that will be lost in hell will be the unbelieving. There are four lives that people live. There is the life you live before the public. That which your town, your community, your neighbors think of you. There is the life you live when you are home and no company, when there are no strangers present. Then there is the life you live when your own family are absent and you are in the presence of God alone, and there is still another life that you live -- your interior heart life; the unseen life. This heart life is what we are all going to be judged by. I tell you when the Judgment is set, and God puts men in the golden balances and weighs them by the heart life, there are thousands in the land whose names are on the church record, and who say they are Christians, who are rotten in their hearts, and the day is going to declare it. God knows what is in your heart, and the time is coming when men and angels will know it. God says in Isa. 28:17 that He will lay judgment to the line and righteousness to the plummet. The last verse of the last chapter of Ecclesiastes says that God will judge the secrets of men's hearts. That secret life is what you are going to be judged by; not what you do, not the outward acts of your life so much as the interior heart life.

Let us take up a few of God's commandments and see what His Word says. He says we are to come out from the world and be separate. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers, for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" How can two walk together unless they are agreed? Then the man that does not come out from the world, the man that does not separate himself and come out from everything that is unclean, that man is going to be lost. If we get to Heaven we will have to be separate, we will have to live a clean life. Nothing but purity is going in through the pearly gates.

"Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." God is a jealous God. When idolatry is mentioned in this so-called Christian land, people think of the heathen, but we have forms of idolatry in this land that are one hundred per cent worse than bowing down to idols of wood and stone? What is an idol? It is that which deviates your heart affection from God. No matter whether it is church, or preacher, or land, or money, or stocks, or bonds. Anything that keeps you from straightening up and going to rock bottom and getting a Scriptural salvation is an idol between you and God. You cannot afford to go to the Judgment with anything between you and Him. There are lots of people in this land that worship their church, they worship this thing and that thing and the other thing. God wants us to worship Him. There are lots of people that cannot measure to that weight. They are burning incense to pleasure, to lust, to the things of this world, to worldly ambition; they sacrifice the principles of salvation and are not walking in the light as God is in the light. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." We have cast the die for hell or Heaven today, for weal or woe. Brother, if you will tell me what the object of your heart's love is, I can tell you which way you are going. God says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." This one weight lots of people cannot measure up to.

Then another one, God says, "thou shalt not swear." There are many men in this country that are guilty of this sin. There are many who never swear out loud, but who swear in their hearts. That is another weight that men are going to be measured by in the Judgment.

That will be a day when the assembled universe will be present, the great men, the rich men, the mighty men, bondmen and freemen, I will be there, you will be there. God is going to weigh us before the assembled universe, the books will be opened and every one of us will be judged. God is keeping the record in Heaven.

He has His pen in hand and is writing the acts of your life. He has a separate entry for every separate sin for you, and you, and you. We have got to meet it at the Judgment. I am warning you, these other preachers are warning you. This Campmeeting is thrown across your path between you and hell. The mighty providences of God are working and doing everything possible to keep you out of a burning, brimstone hell.

God says, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." Hundreds and thousands of people think no more of working on God's holy day than on any other day. They have no respect for God, they do not fear men. They run rough shod over God's commandments and are sealing their own damnation. God gives them over to believe a lie that they might be damned, and through their hardness of heart, searing their conscience as with a hot iron, dulling their moral sensibilities despite to the blessed Holy Spirit, they curse, and steal and lie, and live in adultery and all down the catalogue of sins, they are implicated.

This Bible says, "Thou shalt not steal." The man that is a thief will never get to Heaven. Not only does it mean that a man who steals cannot get to Heaven, but the man who has got the steal in him cannot go there. You do not have to commit a gross act of sin, but if the sin is in your heart it will keep you out of Heaven, as much as those who are the lowest down in the catalogue of sins. With men there are degrees of sin, with God there are no degrees. One sin unrepented of, one sin that you do not turn away from with a godly sorrow is enough to literally sink and damn you in hell. If you have the will to steal you are a thief in God's sight if you never committed the act, and you cannot go to Heaven unless you repent.

God says, "Thou shalt not kill." That is a weight that is going to sink multiplied thousands in hell. There are red handed murderers all over this land tonight. Hundreds of people have taken men's blood, and God says your blood will be demanded for it. So if there is a cold blooded murderer in this audience I warn you as God's holy man, you will go to hell if you do not confess it. But I say again, to apply God's principles of salvation, you do not have to take a man's life to be a murderer. My Bible says if a man hates his brother he is a murderer. If you have hatred in your heart you will go to hell as certainly as you are listening, unless you get it out. There are murderers tonight that have never committed the deed.

The sin of infanticide is a common thing in our land. It is an awful characteristic of these times that people do not love their offspring, and the blood of the murdered innocents is crying out against them. Their cry has come into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth, and He will avenge these murdered infants. Every father and mother that is implicated in this sin will sink into a devil's hell, if they do not repent. When God puts men in the balances, and they are measured by

the straight edge of His truth, if they do not have the blood of Jesus Christ on their soul they will drop into hell. God, let this truth go home tonight. Many of the ministers of today are coming before their congregations with their little rose water sermonettes and never touch upon the awful sins of our times, but God has some holy men who are crying out against these things.

My Bible says, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." It is one of the characteristics of this latter age. Men are like the inhabitants of the cities of the plains, -- marrying and given in marriage. That means multiplied divorce suits. There is only one cause under Heaven that gives you license to get a divorce, and if you have not that Bible excuse, as sure as you are here you are an adulterer. Men can steel their hearts and consciences, against the truth, and break every known law, and God will give them over to believe a lie that they may be damned. God says the reason is that they "received not the love of the truth," and they "had pleasure in unrighteousness." You may burn incense to lust and pleasure and other sins and think you are having a good time, but there is a day coming when the death damp will be upon your brow, and the death hiccough in your throat, and your body is getting cold, and you are almost in sight of the coffin, then you will want the salvation my Bible talks of. There is not a man or woman in this audience tonight that is not traveling to the Judgment as fast as the wheels of time can carry you. It may be that somebody that I am preaching to, is within five hours of hell itself. I believe when an unsaved man dies he goes directly to hell, and when a saint dies he goes to Heaven. Let us take God at His Word. There was a rich man, who "fared sumptuously every day." This man died and went to hell. He testified that he was in torment and wanted water to cool his tongue. I know in this day and age the devil has gotten religious. The devil preaches the Gospel. It is no wonder that his ministers are "transformed as the ministers of righteousness, whose end shall be according to their works." O God, give us some preachers who will hew to the line!

There are thousands of people, even professors of holiness who are not living right on a good many of these lines. May God help us to prepare for the Judgment.

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THE END