

Study Guide-The Fall of the World Lesson 12

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This study guide explores the final events of human history as described in biblical prophecy. It focuses on the ultimate defeat of evil at the Battle of Armageddon, the different destinations for souls after death, and the final judgment of the nations by Jesus Christ. By understanding these concepts, one can see the urgency of faith and the certainty of God's plan for the world.

Student Quiz

1. What is the significance of the "sword" that comes from the mouth of the Son of God during the Battle of Armageddon?
 2. Explain why the Apostle Paul found it difficult to describe his experience after being caught up into Paradise.
 3. According to the lesson, what is the primary difference between Sheol and the Lake of Fire?
 4. Why is Gehenna used as a symbol for hell, and what is its historical background?
 5. What happens to Satan at the beginning of the thousand-year reign of Christ?
 6. Describe the physical effects of the plague the Lord uses to strike those who fight against Jerusalem as described in Zechariah.
 7. According to the lesson's analogy, why is humanity compared to a "runaway train"?
 8. Why is Jesus Christ referred to as the "Son of Man" specifically when He acts as the Judge of the nations?
 9. What is the "Valley of Decision," and how is it physically formed?
 10. Based on the teachings of Peter, how should a believer conduct their life knowing that the world will eventually be dissolved?
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Quiz Answer Key

1. The sword represents the word of Jesus Christ. He does not need physical weapons to win the battle; He defeats His enemies and destroys His adversaries with a single blow from His word.
2. In 2 Corinthians 12, Paul states that he heard "inexpressible words" that were not lawful for a man to utter. This suggests that the heavenly experience is so holy or beyond human understanding that it is forbidden to speak of it in detail.
3. Sheol (or Hades) is described as a temporary destination where souls await the final resurrection. In contrast, the Lake of Fire is the permanent, eternal destination of punishment for the devil, his angels, and those who reject God.
4. Gehenna was a physical valley south of Jerusalem that had been cursed because it was used for human sacrifice. Jesus Christ used it as a symbol of judgment because it represented a place of waste and fire.
5. An angel from heaven binds Satan with a great chain and casts him into the bottomless pit. He is sealed there for a thousand years so that he can no longer deceive the nations during the millennial reign of Christ.
6. The plague causes the flesh of the people to consume away or dissolve while they are still standing on their feet. Their eyes dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues dissolve in their mouths.
7. Man's sin is increasing in speed, like a train that has lost its brakes while heading down a mountain. This path is inevitable and leads to a "terrible crash" which is the judgment of God.
8. While miracles like resurrection are associated with His title as the Son of God, judgment is linked to His role as the Son of Man. This is because judgment is not a miracle but a consequence of what a man has sown; it is a humanly-accountable result.
9. The Valley of Decision is the place where the godless nations are gathered for judgment. It is formed when Jesus Christ stands on the Mount of Olives, causing the mountain to split in two from east to west.
10. Since the current world and all its works will be burned up and dissolved, believers are urged to live in holy conduct and godliness. Knowing that the Lord comes as a "thief in the night" should motivate believers to find others who do not know Him.

Essay Questions for Further Reflection

1. Compare and contrast the "temporary destinations" (Paradise and Hades) with the "permanent destinations" (Heaven and the Lake of Fire) mentioned in the text.

2. Analyze the concept of the "Time of the Gentiles." How does the Battle of Armageddon and the subsequent judgment mark the final phase of this period?
3. Discuss the dual nature of Jesus Christ as the "Son of God" and the "Son of Man" in the context of His authority to give life and His authority to judge.
4. Using the scriptures provided, explain why the lesson argues that God's judgment is "inevitable and inescapable."
5. Evaluate the role of the "Remnant" and those who survive the Tribulation. How do they relate to the thousand-year reign (the Millennial Kingdom) of Jesus Christ?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Abbyss:** A bottomless, immeasurable, and unbounded pit used as a temporary place of confinement for demonic entities and Satan.
- **Abraham's Bosom:** A place of peace, rest, and joy for the righteous after death; used synonymously with Paradise or Heaven.
- **Antichrist:** The "willful king" and ruler of the nations who leads the world in rebellion against God during the end times.
- **Armageddon:** The location of the great final battle where the armies of the world gather in Jerusalem to fight against Jesus Christ.
- **Gehenna:** A term for hell derived from the Hebrew *Gehinnom*, referring to a valley south of Jerusalem associated with fire and judgment.
- **Hades:** The New Testament Greek equivalent to Sheol; a general reference to the temporary realm of the dead.
- **Lake of Fire:** The final, eternal destination of punishment for the unrepentant and the devil, described as burning with sulfur.
- **Millennial Kingdom:** The thousand-year period during which Jesus Christ reigns on earth while Satan is bound.
- **Paradise:** A place of loveliness, delight, and peace; often used as a synonym for Heaven.
- **Sheol:** A Hebrew term denoting the realm of the departed souls or spirits; considered a temporary place awaiting the final resurrection.
- **Son of Man:** A title for Jesus Christ emphasizing His humanity and His role as the executor of judgment.
- **Tribulation:** A seven-year period of intense suffering and divine judgment on the earth preceding the return of Christ.

Greek Language Reference Guide

The following terms appear in the study guide and source context to describe various spiritual locations and concepts.

Greek Term	Phonetic Pronunciation	Definition
Abyss (Abussos)	<i>a-bis-sos</i>	A bottomless pit or immeasurable depth; a place of temporary confinement. [^1]
Hades	<i>hay-deez</i>	The unseen realm of the dead; the Greek equivalent to the Hebrew <i>Sheol</i> . [^2]
Gehenna	<i>ge-hen-na</i>	A place of eternal punishment; derived from the valley of Hinnom. [^3]
Tartarus	<i>tar-tar-os</i>	A gloomy prison or dungeon for fallen angels awaiting judgment. [^4]

[^1]: From the Greek *abussos*, meaning "without bottom." [^2]: Frequently used in the New Testament to describe the temporary location of souls after death. [^3]: Used by Jesus Christ as a symbol of the fires of judgment. [^4]: Referenced in 2 Peter 2:4 regarding disobedient angels held in "chains of darkness."