

## Discussion Questions

### The Books of the Dead and The Book of the Lamb

#### Revelation 20:11-15

(If you could improve yourself in any way—emotional, spiritual, physical etc.—what would you attempt to improve or change about yourself and why?)

I think we all (or at least most of us) strive to be good and do what's right.

- What do you think it is in humanity that, generally speaking, makes us innately desire to understand what is good and gives us a desire to *be* good and *do* good?
- Do you think there's anything that you can do to make yourself better in God's eyes or more pleasing to Him? Explain.
- What does Scripture say makes us good and pleasing in God's eyes?
- Do you ever catch yourself comparing yourself to and/or judging yourself against others?
- Why do you think you are tempted to judge others?

Throughout this sermon, Peter talked about how we try to keep record of our deeds & the deeds of others. We try to judge ourselves & others and in so doing try to justify ourselves before God. Peter shared examples from typical days in his life (pages from his book of judgments) of how he has judged himself and others.

- What would a page from your books of judgment look like for today or the last week or month?
- Who do you currently feel most judgmental of?
- Do you think it's ever okay for you to judge? If so, when and why—what would make it okay? What does Scripture say about us judging?
- Do you think Jesus judges us (See John 5:19-29, John 8:15-18, John 12:47-50, Rev. 20:11-12 and other passages you might think of) Explain?

Read Revelation 20.

- Who do you think the dead that are judged are?

In this sermon Peter said, "...Whatever in you that is alive in Christ, is not one of the dead that John sees. Your New Man is not the dead, but your old man—your old adam is. In Christ, you have a New Man that is Life Eternal, and you have an old man that is dead."—P.H.

- What do you think about the idea that the Judgment is not about separating "good" people from "bad" people but rather it is about separating every person's old (dead) man from their New (Alive) Man:
- Does this idea change your understanding Revelation 20: 11-12?
- Does it change your understanding of God's Judgment in any way?
- Has your understanding of the Great White Throne Judgment or the Judgment of God changed in any way after this sermon or through the course of these questions? If so, how?

Paul writes, *And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh [your old man], **God** made alive together with him, having forgiven us **all** our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the principalities and powers and put them to open shame by triumphing over them in Him* (Colossians 2:13-15).

At the cross, it's like God opens all the books and all the judgments of this world (with their legal demands), and with His own blood—throughout all of time: past, present, future—He stamped cancelled on every debt.

- Do you have any debts that you still *feel* like you need to pay for or that you struggle to believe are forgiven (even though Scripture is clear they already are forgiven and paid for)?
- Are you holding any debts against others and refusing to let the forgiveness and grace of God flow through you towards your offender(s)?
- Share your struggles with God and invite Him to etch the truth upon your heart. Now, listen to the truth—*all* is forgiven; the debt has been paid in *FULL!* "*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, NOT by works...*"

*\*These questions were created by Kimberly Weynen*