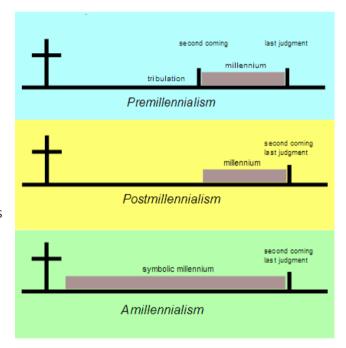
REVELATION 20:1-15 REVELATION 20

THE MILLENNIUM

All Christians believe that at some point in the future, our Lord Christ will return again (the "second coming"). All Christians also believe that there will be a judgement of some sort and that eventually this earth will end and all believers will be in heaven.

In Christian eschatology, there is the Millennium, which means one thousand years. Sometimes it is referred to as the "millennial kingdom." However, Christians disagree on exactly when the Millennium will occur and what it will be like. There are three views of the millennium -

- Premillennialism. Premillennialists believe that Christ will return before the millennium.
- Postmillennialism. Postmillennialists believe that Christ will return after the millennium.
- Amillennialism. Amillennialists believe that the millennium is figurative and that we are already living in it.



Key Interpretive Issues in Revelation 20:1-6			
Issue Premillennialism		Postmillennialism	Amillennialism
Satan's Binding	Future	Present / Future	Present
First Resurrection	Physical	Spiritual	Spiritual
Millennium	Literal	Literal / Symbolic	Symbolic
Locale of Reign	Earth	Earth / Heaven	Heaven
Chronology of chapters 19-20	Sequential	Sequential /Recapitulation	Recapitulation

TRIBULATION AND RAPTURE

What is the Tribulation? This is a period of seven years in which there will be severe persecution, famine, wars, and diseases represented by the three series of seven judgments,

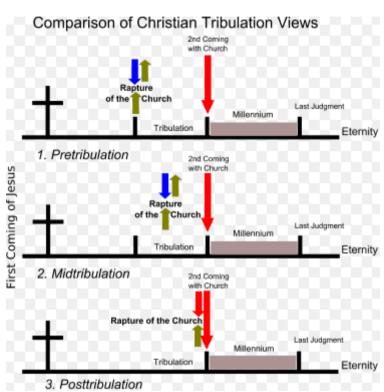
beginning with the seal judgments (Revelation 6), then the trumpet judgments (Revelation 8), and will end with bowl judgments (Revelation 16).

What is the Rapture? The English word "rapture" is derived from the Latin verb "rapere" meaning "to carry off," or "to catch up." Although the term "rapture" is not found in the Bible, the idea of the Rapture has strong scriptural basis.

- 1Thessalonians 4:16-17
- Matthew 24:30-36
- Matthew 24:40-41

The issue amongst Premillennialists is over the timing of the rapture. There are three major views on the timing of the Rapture.

- Pretribulation Rapture, meaning that the Rapture will occur before the tribulation.
- Mid-tribulation Rapture, meaning that the Rapture will occur midway through the tribulation.
- Pre-wrath Tribulation Rapture, meaning that the Rapture will occur just before the bowl judgments which are described as "the vials of the wrath of God" (Revelation 16:1).
- Post-tribulation Rapture, meaning that the Rapture will occur after the tribulation.



In Revelation 19:11-21, John records the removal of the Antichrist and the false prophet and their followers. John's message is that our Lord Jesus Christ returns on a white horse (an animal of war) accompanied by the armies in heaven (19:14). He will pour down His judgment upon the enemies.

In Chapter 20, John describes the removal of Satan and the end of Death and Hell. Chapter 20 can be divided into two major sections.

- 20:1-10 John describes the imprisonment of Satan, his release, defeat and damnation.
- 20:11-15 John describes the Great White Throne judgment where Satan, death and hell will be cast into the lake of fire.

THE DEFEAT OF SATAN (REVELATION 20:1-10)

- ¹ And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
- ² And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,
- ³ And cast 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 a little season.
- ⁴ 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 lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.
- ⁵ But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection.
- ⁶ 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.
- ⁷ And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,
- ⁸ 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.
- ⁹ 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.
- ¹⁰ And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Revelation 20:1–10)

A. And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. (Revelation 20:1)

1. I saw an angel coming down from heaven

John has previously seen other angels coming down from heaven on divine missions. A mighty angel came down from heaven to stand upon the sea and land and declare God's dominion retaking the earth (Revelation 10:2). An angel with great authority came down from heaven to declare the destruction of Babylon (Revelation 18:1).

2 Having the key to the bottomless pit

In Chapter 9, John saw a "star" which fell from heaven having the key to the same bottomless pit (Revelation 9:1). The star (i.e. angel) opened the pit to loose the demonic locusts at the fifth trumpet judgment. Here, an angel will perform the opposite action with his key: locking up the bottomless pit.

3. And a great chain in his hand

The "chain" here is probably not a literal chain, but it is a symbol of the angel's authority and ability to restrain Satan. This is not the first time where an angelic power will have been said to be chained (see 2Pet. 2:4; Jude 6).

B. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, (Revelation 20:2)

1. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan The phrase "laid hold" means "to take into custody," or "to arrest." John describes Satan as that old serpent (Revelation 12:3-4, 7, 9, 13, 16-17; 13:2, 4; 16:13; 20:2), alluding to the Garden of Eden, where Satan used to deceive Eve (Gen. 3:1-6).

2. And bound him

To "bound" can be taken literally to mean as in the case of the demoniac of Gadarenes being bound with chains (Mark 5:3), or John the Baptist being bound in prison by Herod (Mark 6:17). It can also have a figurative meaning as in the case of the woman who was bound by the spirit of infirmity for 18 years (Luke 13:11-16). Paul was also said to be "bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem" (Acts 20:22).

The binding of Satan here is the actual fulfilment of the binding, although the sentence of the binding was accomplished at the cross.

So, the question is: Is Satan truly bound at this present time? No! There is a differentiation between the announcement of the judgment and its actual fulfilment (see Luke 19:11ff). There are several passages showing that Satan is not presently bound.

- Satan filled the heart of Ananias to lie to the Holy Spirit, resulting in the deaths of him and his wife (Acts 5:3).
- Paul said that Satan is blinding the eyes of nonbelievers in this current age so that they should not receive the gospel (2Cor. 4:3-4).
- Paul told the Corinthians that Satan transforms himself (deceptively) into an angel of light (2Cor. 11:14).
- Paul was given a thorn in the flesh, "a messenger of Satan" to keep him humble (2Cor. 12:7).
- Paul told the Ephesians that the prince of the power of the air "now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Eph. 2:2).
- Paul told the Ephesians not to give place to the devil (Eph. 4:27) and that they wrestled against "spiritual wickedness in high *places*" (Eph. 6:12)
- Paul was hindered by Satan from visiting the Thessalonian church (1Th. 2:18).
- The coming of the lawless one, the Antichrist, will be "after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders" (2Thess.

- 2:9). This is fulfilled, in part, by the activities of the False Prophet documented in the book of Revelation.
- Paul delivered Hymenaeus and Alexander to Satan so that they might learn not to blaspheme (1Tim. 1:20).
- James warns believers to submit to God and resist the devil (James 4:7).
- Peter warns believers to be sober and vigilant because "your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1Pet. 5:8)
- John tells us that "the whole world lieth in wickedness" (1John 5:19).
- Satan is a source of deception throughout the events of the book of Revelation (Revelation 12:9; 13:14; 18:23; 19:20; 20:8, 10).

3. A thousand years, (Revelation 20:2)

Satan will be bound for a "thousand [Gk: chilia] years." As with all progressive revelation, this passage provides information which was not before revealed—the duration of the Millennial Kingdom.

- C. And cast 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 a little season. (Revelation 20:3)
 - 1. And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him The angel casts Satan into the bottomless pit, locks him in, and set a seal upon Satan. To "set a seal upon him" means to exercise authority over Satan. The angel's treatment of Satan corresponds to Isaiah's prediction that disobedient angels would be punished and imprisoned (Isa. 24:19-22).

2. That <u>he should deceive the nations no more</u>

How did Satan deceive the world?

- Humanity by causing Eve to doubt the word of God in the Garden of Eden (1Tim. 2:14).
- The world by restoring the beast from death so that all the world would worship him (Revelation 13:3).
- The world by speaking through the False Prophet (Revelation 13:11) and empowering him to deceive people (Revelation 13:14, 16; 14:9-11).
- The world by allowing the Harlot to ride on him (Revelation 17:3).
- The world by making the people drunk with the harlot's fornicating wine (Revelation 17:2) and sorcery (Revelation 18:23).

His deception will affect both believers and unbelievers, is a fact of the Church age (2Cor. 11:13-15)

2. Till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

There is a time frame in which Satan will be incapacitated. But this imprisonment of Satan reveals a dark side of man. Satan's removal is the removal of a convenient excuse by which men hide their own rebellious nature.

- D. 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 lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (Revelation 20:4)
 - 1. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them

To sit on thrones implies a dual authority – judicial as well as kingly authority. These would have been the overcomers who obtained the promises Jesus gave to the church at Thyatira and Laodicea (see Revelation 2:26-27).

The 24 elders do not only sit as kings, but they also sit as judges. They represent believers from two major resurrection events, both of which are known as the first resurrection:

2. And *I saw* the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God.

"Souls" here refer to the martyrs (Revelation 2:10; 6:9; 7:13-14). That John uses "souls" here does not mean that he is only talking about spiritual and not physical resurrection.

3. And which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands.

These were faithful witnesses because they had refused to do certain things.

- They refuse to worship the beast and his image.
- They refuse to receive the mark of the beast
- 4. And they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

These martyrs will live and reign with Christ for a thousand years. The reason they come to life is because Christ overcame death (Revelation 1:18; 2:8; see also John 5:21; 14:19; 2 Tim. 2:11).

Through identification by faith in Jesus Christ, they obtained resurrection to life. This resurrection is not spiritual, meaning it is not spiritual regeneration because these are said to have previously died because of their faith! This is the future physical resurrection of believers.

E. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. (Revelation 20:5)

1. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first of two resurrections subsequent to Christ's Second Coming, one prior to the Millennial Kingdom and the other after. The text describes two resurrections separated by a period of one thousand years. This fact is compatible with the many other resurrection passages (see Dan. 12:2; Luke 14:14; John 5:28-29; Acts 24:14-15).

2. This *is* the first resurrection.

"First" here can mean "the earliest" or "priority." The implication is that this is the chief or foremost resurrection, the "better resurrection" (Heb. 11:35) because participation in the first resurrection indicates a person is saved and participates in the blessings of God's kingdom on earth.

The use of first to describe a resurrection which follows after Christ's resurrection, gives us an initial clue that first does not refer to chronological order. It is first from the perspective of its priority: those who participate in the resurrection of life rather than the resurrection of condemnation (John 5:28-29).

It is also the first relative to the Millennial Kingdom since the subsequent resurrection will not be until one thousand years later. Christ was the first man to rise in the category which is the first resurrection (1Cor. 15:20-23).

The Bible teaches reveals a number of individual resurrection events separated in time, all of which fall into one of two categories: the resurrection of life (the first resurrection) and the resurrection unto condemnation (the second resurrection). The first resurrection consists of several resurrection events which are treated as a single category – the raising of all who are redeemed.

Order	Which	Timing	Who	Description	Scriptures
1	First	The Third	Jesus	The resurrection	Matt. 28:1-7;
		Day	Christ	of the Lord Jesus	Mark 16:1-
				Christ, the	11; Luke
				"firstfruits of	24:1-12;
				those who have	John 20:1-
				fallen asleep."	18; 1Cor.
					5:20
2	First	Shortly	A Few	At the	Matt. 27:50-
		after	<i>OT</i> Saints	earthquake	53
		Christ's		attending the	
		Resurrecti		crucifixion,	
		on		graves were	
				opened. Shortly	

				after the	
				resurrection of	
				Christ, these	
				saints were	
				raised.	
3	First	Before the	Church	The resurrection	John 14:3;
		Tribulation		of Church-age	1Th. 4:13-18;
				believers at the	1Cor. 15:50-
				Rapture	53
4	First	Middle of	Two	God's two	Revelation
		the	Witnesses	witnesses will be	11:11-12
		Tribulation		raised after	
				being killed by	
	E: .	A C1	OT C : :	The Beast.	D 42.4.2
5	First	After	OT Saints	Old Testament	Dan. 12:1-2;
		Jacob's		saints will be	Isa. 26:19;
		Trouble		resurrected to enter the	Ezek. 37:13- 14
				Millennial	14
				Kingdom	
6	First	Beginning	Tribulation	The Tribulation	Revelation
	11130	of	Martyrs	martyrs will be	20:4-6
		Millennial	ivial cyrs	resurrected so	2011 0
		Kingdom		that they can	
		G		rule and reign	
				with Christ.	
7	Second	End of	Unbelievin	At the end of	Revelation
		Millennial	g	the millennial	20:11-15
		Kingdom	Dead	reign of Christ,	
				the final	
				resurrection will	
				consist of all of	
				the unbelieving,	
				wicked dead.	
				They will be	
				found guilty at	
				the Great White Throne	
				Judgment and cast into the	
				Lake of Fire.	
				Lake OI FII e.	

F. 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. (Revelation 20:6)

Those who experienced the first resurrection are blessed because "they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years" (20:6).

Death has not power over those who experienced the first resurrection. Our Lord Jesus Christ promised the overcomer of the church at Smyrna – the persecuted church – that they would not be hurt by the second death (Revelation 2:11).

The second death is the final destiny of those whose names are not written in the Book of Life (Revelation 20:14; 21:8).

The Word of God speaks of two births, two deaths, and two resurrections. Everyone is physically born once. Those who do not undergo the second birth, the spiritual birth, also undergo the second death which is the permanent separation from God with eternal torment.

Event	Unbeliever	Believer	Description
Born	Yes	Yes	The first birth is <i>physical</i> birth.
Born	No	Yes	The second birth is spiritual and occurs when a
Again			person comes to faith in Jesus Christ. Only
			believers are "born twice."
1st	Yes	Yes	The first death occurs at the end of one's
Death			physical life.
1 st	No	Yes	The first resurrection is a category and occurs in
Resurr			stages, beginning with the resurrection of Christ
ection			(1Cor. 15:20), and ending with the resurrection
			just prior to the Millennial Kingdom (Revelation
			20:5-6). Only believers participate in the first
			resurrection.
2 nd	Yes	No	The second resurrection occurs at the end of the
Resurr			Millennial Kingdom at the Great White Throne
ection			Judgment (Revelation 20:11-13). Only
			unbelievers participate in the second
			resurrection.
2nd	Yes	No	The second death is after the Millennium and the
Death			Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:14-
			15). As there is eternal life beyond this present
			life for the faithful, so there is eternal death
			beyond the death of the wicked. The second
			death is commonly known as <i>hell</i> .

G. 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. (Revelation 20:7-8)

 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

According to God's plan, after a thousand years, Satan will be released from prison. During his 1,000-year imprisonment, Satan is unable to deceive any one.

However, the moment he is released, he is back to this deception, he will "go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth."

The phrase "the four corners of the earth" is figurative language indicating the four main compass directions (Ezek. 7:2; Revelation 7:1).

2. Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom *is* as the sand of the sea.

The name Gog appears several times.

- A descendant of Joel, of the tribe of Reuben (1Chron. 5:4).
- The leader of the rebellion, which came against Israel, was also named Gog (Ezek. 38:1-9). Ezekiel says that this Gog would invade the restored land of Israel from the far distant northern land by the appointment of God in the last times, with a powerful army of numerous nations and with the intention of plundering Israel (Ezek. 38: 10-16).

The name Magog is introduced to us as a son of Japheth and grandson of Noah (Gen. 10:2). The two names are closely related. Gog is said to be "of the land of Magog" (Ezek. 38:2).

It is conjectured that the descendants of Magog are possibly a people who lived in northern Asia and Europe (Ezek. 38:15). The Jewish historian Josephus identified these people as the Scythians, known for their destructive warfare. They are also said to be experts in the use of the bow and arrow (Ezek. 39:3, 9).

Although Gog and Magog are both mentioned in Ezekiel 38 and 39, this rebellion is not the same event in Revelation 20 for the following reasons.

- The former takes place before the Kingdom is established on earth; the latter after this Kingdom. Also, in Ezekiel, the invasion comes only from the north, but in Revelation, it comes from the "four quarters of the earth."
- The rebellion of Gog and Magog and their destruction in Revelation 20:7-10 marks the ushering in of the eternal state (Revelation 20:11-15).

- The problem of the seven months and seven years (Ezek. 39:9, 12, 14). This earth is done away with soon after the invasion mentioned in Revelation, not allowing any time (or place!) for seven months of burial.
- H. 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. (Revelation 20:9)

The armies of Gog and Magog surrounded the camp of the saints, and the beloved city, which is Jerusalem. Despite the 1,000-year reign of Christ, and without the deceptive influences of Satan, the depravity of man is seen in a generation of rebels, who come against God. Satan is able to muster millions and millions of people who gladly join in a last desperate effort to strike at God. The number is as the sands of the sea (20:8).

God sends fire from heaven, and the enemies of God are destroyed directly by His hand, in much the same way as Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19:24).

I. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Revelation 20:10)

Verse 10 describes the final judgment of Satan; he will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone.

- Satan was first cast out of heaven at his first rebellion (Ezek. 28:17)
- Satan was cast to the earth (Revelation 12:9), probably near the mid-point of the Tribulation.
- Satan was bound and cast into the bottomless pit at the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus (Revelation 20:2).
- Satan is now cast into his final destination, the Lake of Fire, which was originally prepared for him and his angels (Matt. 25:41).

With this final revolt, the Millennial Kingdom will come to an end. The beast and the false prophets will also join Satan in the lake of fire. The lake of fire does not annihilate its occupants. The phrase "day and night" is a figure of speech meaning continually (Luke 18:7; Acts 9:27; Revelation 7:15; 12:10).

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT (REVELATION 20:11-15)

- ¹¹ And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.
- ¹² 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.
- 13 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.
 - ¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
- ¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:11–15)
- A. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. (Revelation 20:11)
 - 1. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it

The scene here in Revelation 20:11 is very similar to that which Daniel saw in his night vision (Dan. 7:9-10). In Daniel's vision, it is the Father who judged on behalf of the Son. In Revelation 20:11, the final judgment of the wicked is almost certainly to be judged by the One Who died for sinners (John 1:29; 1Tim. 2:6; Heb. 2:9; 2Pet. 2:1; 1John. 2:2)

2. From whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

God's face speaks of His immediate presence, before which no man can stand without divine protection (Exod. 3:6; 19:21; 1Kings. 19:13; Isa. 6:5; 1John. 4:12)

- B. 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. (Revelation 20:12)
 - And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God
 Every category of man now stands on an individual basis before God. For unbelievers, this is the only time that they stand in the presence of God, and it will result in devastating judgment.
 - 2. And the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life

There will be two sets of books. First is the set of books that record the good and bad deeds of those about to be judged. This is the record of their "works" prior to death.

Second, there is the book of life. Unlike the books which record their works, this book records their faith or lack thereof. The existence of the Book of Life in the judgment is proof that access to God is by faith alone.

One's destination – in heaven or hell – is determined solely by the presence or absence of one's name in the Book of Life. Anyone not found written in the Book of Life is cast into the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:15). Those who are written in the Book will be able to enter the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:27).

3. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books
The dead were judged. This is the final judgment of those who have rejected
God. There is no second chance, no possibility of repentance beyond death
(Heb. 9:27-28).

All the unsaved dead from all of history now stand before God Almighty, except the Beast and the False Prophet of the end were cast directly into the Lake of Fire without judgment.

4. According to their works.

The contents of the books are the record of all their deeds prior to death. They will be judged both by their deeds and by their knowledge (Rom. 1:20-22; 2:12-16).

Unbelievers are convinced they will gain "heaven" by their works. And to their eternal peril, God will judge them by their works (Ps. 28:4; 62:12; Prov. 24:12; Eccl. 12:14; Jer. 17:10; Matt. 16:27; Revelation 2:23).

C. 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. (Revelation 20:13)

The dead will be delivered, whether from the sea or on the land, for judgment. This is the "resurrection of condemnation" (John 5:29).

- D. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. (Revelation 20:14)
 - 1. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire.

Death and hell here are personified; that they are cast into hell simply means that they cease to be. There is nothing more of temporal death or of the place of departed spirits after this.

The casting of death and hell into the Lake of Fire is part of the second resurrection. This is in fulfilment of what Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:54-55.

2. This is the second death.

Those who overcome by placing their faith in Christ "shall not be hurt by the second death" (Revelation 2:11). Those who have a part in the first resurrection need not fear the second death. "Over such the second death has no power" (Revelation 10:6a).

E. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:15)

God is righteous and just. He will not judge someone by mistake. Those whose names are not written in the book will face eternal damnation (John 3:18, 36; Mark 16:16).

The warning from the Word of God is this:

And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. (Luke 12:4-5)