

**Revelation 20:11** Then I saw [ a vision ] the Great [ sovereign ] White [ integrity ] the Great [ the divine bar ] and He Who was sitting on it [ Jesus Christ ], from Whose presence the earth and heaven have vanished [ destruction of the original universe ] and no place was found for them. [ See: 2 Peter 3:10–12 ]

**v. 12** Then I saw the dead [unbelievers ], insignificant, small, and great standing before the throne [ the Supreme Court of Heaven ]. And books were opened. And another book of a different kind was opened which keeps on being the book of life [ a record of those who were imputed eternal life at salvation ]. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written into the books [ the second book is the books of works, i.e., human good ], according into their works.

**v. 13** Then the sea [ universal flood ] gave up the dead of those in it [the Nephilim of Genesis 6 ]. Also, death and Hades gave up the dead of those in them [ unbelievers imprisoned in the Torments compartment of Hades ]; and they were judged each one individually according to their works.

**NOTE:** The Nephilim, half angels, half humans, will not be judged with the demons at the end of history because their human lives must be judged. They were drowned back in Genesis 6 until they are resuscitated, noted in verse 13, from the sea. However, they are not totally angelic, therefore their human half must be retained in what may be referred to as the Sea Gates that lead into the Abyss.

**Revelation 20:14** Then death of unbelievers including Hades were thrown into the Lake of Fire. This divine sentence is the second death, the Lake of Fire.

**v. 15** And if anyone's name was not found registered in the Book of Life, he was thrown into the Lake of Fire. (EXT)

3. The Great White Throne refers to the courtroom where the Appeal was held, testimonies presented by the defense and by the Prosecution.
4. Those who were brought forth as witnesses for the defense included Homo sapiens unbelievers in every dispensation of history, the fallen angels, and the Nephilim.

5. When the Lord sounds the gavel, the universe detonates and is consumed by fire. This terminates the drama that began in Eden with Adam and Ishah and ends with the Great White Throne Judgment: 2 Peter 3:10–12 cf. Revelation 20:11.
6. What we may conclude from this retrospectives of the Divine Court of Appeals is the importance placed upon Church-Age believers becoming prime witnesses for the Prosecution.
7. In doing our duty in the hostile environment of the devil's world, we may be encouraged daily by the absolute truth found in Scripture.
8. Its collection of absolute truths retained and facilitated in our souls provides the courage to ignore the incoming flack, remain inside the divine power system, and grow in grace toward spiritual maturity.
9. Our temporal security is underwritten by our eternal security from God. This includes the assignment of guardian angels to guard us in our spiritual advance. These doctrines allow us, over time, to put on the full armor of God.

**The soldier in the ranks cannot see all parts of the battlefield and cannot keep abreast of the changing tactical situation. Panoramic strategy is the responsibility of the soldier of Christ, so that the plan of the Supreme Commander might be executed. The greatest victory of submission resulted from the obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who was “obedient to the point of death” (Philippians 2:8b).**

**As a Christian warrior you *must* pick up, put on, and leave on the full complement of spiritual armor and weaponry in order to defend against your enemies. If your attitude toward the teaching of God's Word is negative, you will not pick up or put on the full armor.**

**If you rely on your own strength and human energy, if you operate apart from the filling of the Holy Spirit and cognition of Bible doctrine, you will be caught off-guard and unprepared, unable to resist the evil one. The spiritual battlefield lies strewn with casualties who disregarded God's mandates and provisions. You reap that which you sow.**

Donning the *full* armor of God is the defensive attitude of the believer who is an effective witness for the Prosecution in the angelic conflict. This is the believer who persistently renovates his thinking to the mind of Christ. He is never off-balance or defenseless. He possesses the capacity to persevere in the face of overwhelming odds.

Consistently utilizing the assets God has provided for defense, he submits to the will of God through the filling of the Holy Spirit, he knows the will of God from the Bible doctrine in his soul, and he grows in the will of God by the advance to spiritual maturity. This is the Christian warrior who represents the Lord Jesus Christ to a fallen world and glorifies God to the maximum in both time and eternity. Follow the command!<sup>3</sup>

10. Following the Great White Throne judgments, the universe is destroyed by fire:

**2 Peter 3:10** But the day of the Lord [ immediately following the Millennium ] will arrive as a thief in the night in which day the heavens shall completely disappear with a great noise, the structure of the universe and its elements shall dissolve with fervent heat [ καυσόμοι (*kausóomai*): fission or fusion ], and the earth and the works of human good in it shall be burned up.

**v. 11** Since all of these things are to be destroyed, in this way, what sort of persons should we become in a lifestyle sanctified to God?

**v. 12** You eagerly look forward with confidence to the day of God [ the eternal state ] and speed its coming. That day will bring about the detonation [ predictive future passive indicative of λύω (*lúō*) ] of the heavens by nuclear fission or fusion and the structure of the universe will melt with the intense heat of its conflagration.

**v. 13** Nevertheless, we believers according to the standards of His promise [ Isaiah 65:17 ], look in anticipation for the new heavens and a new earth, in which indwells God's righteousness. (EXT)

---

<sup>3</sup> R. B. Thieme, Jr. *The Angelic Conflict* (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2012), 148–49.



**He Who turned some of His infinite energy into matter in the first creation, when the heavens and the earth were created, and who will reverse the process and return all matter to energy, will then repeat the creative miracle, as a result of which there will be a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness will be the rule.<sup>4</sup>**

11. Human history is actually quite brief compared to the eternal state both prior to the creation of the universe and after its conflagration.
12. Ergo: *Sic transit gloria mundi*: Thus, passes away the glory of the world.

**James 4:7**      Subordinate yourselves under the authority of God. Stand fast and resist the devil and he will run away from you. (EXT)

13. In this verse, James references the ongoing arguments presented by witnesses for the defense and witnesses for the Prosecution before the Divine Court of Appeals of which we just studied.
14. We have now given time to the study of events that will resolve the case before the Divine Court of Appeals. And the verse that took us there is James 4:7 cited above.

Here are some principles that warrant repetition before we continue into verse 8:

1. Verse 7 begins with the aorist middle imperative of the verb, **ὑποτάσσω** (*hupotássō*): “Submit; subordinate yourself to divine authority.”
2. Following the general chaos of the first six verses, James wants the believer to focus his attention on the conflicts those verses demonstrate and the sources of them.
3. The one to whom the believer is to submit is God and great emphasis is intended since it is an imperative mood.
4. God is The One the believer is to serve. He is The One for Whom we are witnesses. Those folk in verses 1–6 are witnesses for the defense.
5. They have betrayed the God who bought them. They are of the same ilk as are those dressed down by Peter in:

---

<sup>4</sup> Randolph O. Yeager, “2 Peter 3:12,” in *The Renaissance New Testament* (Gretna: Pelican Publishing Co., 1985), 17:284–85.