



SAVED TO SERVE
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The Great Controversy, pt. 28: Facing Life's Record
GC28.Pope may Resign,Fulfills Vow,Papacy will be
Short.SDA:Rome Changed,We're Family,End Protest

1. What is the title of chapter 28 of *The Great Controversy*? _____
2. The following scriptures show that there is a record of our thoughts, words, and actions in heaven and one day we will have to face it. Deuteronomy 30:19; Job 16:19; 1 John 5:7,8
3. This message of facing life's record, which is synonymous to the investigative judgment, must be preached where? Revelation 14:6,7

4. What did the Lord show Daniel as He showed John in Revelation 14:6,7? Daniel 7:9,10 _____
5. Who is the "Ancient of Days"? Who are the thousand, thousands, ten thousand times ten thousand? Psalm 90:2; Revelation 5:11

"Thus was presented to the prophet's vision the great and solemn day when the characters and the lives of men should pass in review before the Judge of all the earth, and to every man should be rendered 'according to his works.' The Ancient of Days is God the Father. Says the psalmist: 'Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.' Psalm 90:2. It is He, the source of all being, and the fountain of all law, that is to preside in the judgment. And holy angels as ministers and witnesses, in number "ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands," attend this great tribunal." {GC 479.2}

6. During what event is the Son of Man, who is Jesus, seen going in to the Father? Daniel 9:13,14,9,10 _____
"And, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away." Daniel 7:13, 14. The coming of Christ here described is not His second coming to the earth. He comes to the Ancient of Days in heaven to receive dominion and glory and a kingdom, which will be given Him at the close of His work as a mediator. It is this coming, and not His second advent to the earth, that was foretold in prophecy to take place at the termination of the 2300 days in 1844. Attended by heavenly angels, our great High Priest enters the holy of holies and there appears in the presence of God to engage in the last acts of His ministration in behalf of man--to perform the work of investigative judgment and to make an atonement for all who are shown to be entitled to its benefits. {GC 479.3}

7. Whose cases are being reviewed since October 22, 1844 and to receive a verdict? _____
In the typical service only those who had come before God with confession and repentance, and whose sins, through the blood of the sin offering, were transferred to the sanctuary, had a part in the service of the Day of Atonement. So in the great day of final atonement and investigative judgment the only cases considered are those of the professed people of God. The judgment of the wicked is a distinct and separate work, and takes place at a later period. "Judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel?" 1 Peter 4:17. {GC 480.1}

8. To confirm the above compare the following scriptures: Leviticus 4:1-6,31-35 with Leviticus 16:15-20.
9. What is standard of the investigative judgment? By what are we being judged? James 2:12 _____
10. When the judgment was set what were opened? Daniel 7:10 _____
11. What is the name of one of the books? Revelation 20:12 _____
12. Our names enter the book of life when we accept Jesus, who is the Life and when we experience the born again experience. John 14:6; John 3:3,5-7.
13. What will cause our names to remain in the book of life? Revelation 3:4,5; Matthew 10:32,33 _____
14. Names can be removed from the book of life. Read Revelation 22:18,19; Revelation 13:8 _____
15. What are some things that would allow our names to remain in the book of life? Revelation 3:4,5 _____
Philippians 4:3 _____
Luke 10:17-20 _____
Revelation 21:27 _____

In the judgment the use made of every talent will be scrutinized. How have we employed the capital lent us of Heaven? Will the Lord at His coming receive His own with usury? Have we improved the powers entrusted us, in hand and heart and brain, to the glory of God and the blessing of the world? How have we used our time, our pen, our voice, our money, our influence? What have we done for Christ, in the person of the poor, the afflicted, the orphan, or the widow? God has made us the depositaries of His holy word; what have we done with the light and truth given us to make men wise unto salvation? No value is attached to a mere profession of faith in Christ; only the love which is shown by works is counted genuine. Yet it is love alone which in the sight of Heaven makes any act of value. Whatever is done from love, however small it may appear in the estimation of men, is accepted and rewarded of God. {GC 487.2}

17. Sad is the record which angels bear to heaven. Intelligent beings, professed followers of Christ, are absorbed in the acquirement of worldly possessions or the enjoyment of earthly pleasures. Money, time, and strength are sacrificed for display and self-indulgence; but few are the moments devoted to prayer, to the searching of the Scriptures, to humiliation of soul and confession of sin. {GC 487.3}

18. What is the name of another book that Jesus will bring into the investigative judgment? Malachi 3:16 _____

19. What does it mean to fear God? Proverbs 8:13; Psalm 34:11-14 _____

20. What are some of things that will be written in the book of remembrance? Nehemiah 13:14 _____

"In the book of God's remembrance every deed of righteousness is immortalized. There every temptation resisted, every evil overcome, every word of tender pity expressed, is faithfully chronicled. And every act of sacrifice, every suffering and sorrow endured for Christ's sake, is recorded. Says the psalmist: 'Thou tellest my wanderings: put Thou my tears into Thy bottle: are they not in Thy book?' Psalm 56:8." {GC 481.1}

20. What does the Bible teach about our good deeds in the book of remembrance? Ezekiel 18:24 _____

22. Note: There is a record also of our sins, the book of sins. See Isaiah 65:6,7; Ecclesiastes 12:13,14; Matthew 12:36,37.

Every man's work passes in review before God and is registered for faithfulness or unfaithfulness. Opposite each name in the books of heaven is entered with terrible exactness every wrong word, every selfish act, every unfulfilled duty, and every secret sin, with every artful dissembling. Heaven-sent warnings or reproofs neglected, wasted moments, unimproved opportunities, the influence exerted for good or for evil, with its far-reaching results, all are chronicled by the recording angel. {GC 482.1}

Sins that have not been repented of and forsaken will not be pardoned and blotted out of the books of record, but will stand to witness against the sinner in the day of God. He may have committed his evil deeds in the light of day or in the darkness of night; but they were open and manifest before Him with whom we have to do. {GC 486.2}

The hidden selfishness of men stands revealed in the books of heaven. There is the record of unfulfilled duties to their fellow men, of forgetfulness of the Saviour's claims. There they will see how often were given to Satan the time, thought, and strength that belonged to Christ. {GC 487.3}

Those who would share the benefits of the Saviour's mediation should permit nothing to interfere with their duty to perfect holiness in the fear of God. The precious hours, instead of being given to pleasure, to display, or to gain seeking, should be devoted to an earnest, prayerful study of the word of truth. {GC 488.2}

23. Why does Jesus enter the judgment seen, as seen in Daniel 7:9,10,13? Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1-3 _____

As the books of record are opened in the judgment, the lives of all who have believed on Jesus come in review before God. Beginning with those who first lived upon the earth, our Advocate presents the cases of each successive generation, and closes with the living. Every name is mentioned, every case closely investigated. Names are accepted, names rejected. When any have sins remaining upon the books of record, unrepented of and unforgiven, their names will be blotted out of the book of life, and the record of their good deeds will be erased from the book of God's remembrance. {GC 483.1}

24. What must be our experience now in this investigative judgment? What is God's work? Leviticus 16:29,30 _____

25. What does Jesus plea in the judgment for us? _____

The deepest interest manifested among men in the decisions of earthly tribunals but faintly represents the interest evinced in the heavenly courts when the names entered in the book of life come up in review before the Judge of all the earth. The divine Intercessor presents the plea that all who have overcome through faith in His blood be forgiven their transgressions, that they be restored to their Eden home, and crowned as joint heirs with Himself to "the first dominion." Micah 4:8. Satan in his efforts to deceive and tempt our race had thought to frustrate the divine plan in man's creation; but Christ now asks that this plan be carried into effect as if man had never fallen. He asks for His people not only pardon and justification, full and complete, but a share in His glory and a seat upon His throne. {GC 483.3}

26. Satan also appears in the judgment. What does he say? _____

While Jesus is pleading for the subjects of His grace, Satan accuses them before God as transgressors. The great deceiver has sought to lead them into skepticism, to cause them to lose confidence in God, to separate themselves from His love, and to break His law. Now he points to the record of their lives, to the defects of character, the unlikeness to Christ, which has dishonored their Redeemer, to all the sins that he has tempted them to commit, and because of these he claims them as his subjects. {GC 484.1}

27. Read also Jude 9 (the contention over the righteous dead) and Zechariah 3:1 (the contention over the righteous living).

28. How does Jesus respond to Satan? Jude 9 and Zechariah 3:1-5 _____

Jesus does not excuse their sins, but shows their penitence and faith, and, claiming for them forgiveness, He lifts His wounded hands before the Father and the holy angels, saying: I know them by name. I have graven them on the palms of My hands. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise." Psalm 51:17. And to the accuser of His people He declares: "The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?" Zechariah 3:2. Christ will clothe His faithful ones with His own righteousness, that He may present them to His Father "a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing." Ephesians 5:27. Their names stand enrolled in the book of life, and concerning them it is written: "They shall walk with Me in white: for they are worthy." Revelation 3:4. {GC 484.2}

29. What does Jesus do after we pass the investigative judgment? Jeremiah 50:20; Isaiah 43:25; Psalm 103:10-14 _____

30. When does the blotting out of sin take place? Acts 3:19,20 _____

See also Leviticus 16:20-22

In the typical service the high priest, having made the atonement for Israel, came forth and blessed the congregation. So Christ, at the close of His work as mediator, will appear, "without sin unto salvation" (Hebrews 9:28), to bless His waiting people with eternal life. As the priest, in removing the sins from the sanctuary, confessed them upon the head of the scapegoat, so Christ will place all these sins upon Satan, the originator and instigator of sin. The scapegoat, bearing the sins of Israel, was sent away "unto a land not inhabited" (Leviticus 16:22); so Satan, bearing the guilt of all the sins which he has caused God's people to commit, will be for a thousand years confined to the earth, which will then be desolate, without inhabitant, and he will at last suffer the full penalty of sin in the fires that shall destroy all the wicked. Thus the great plan of redemption will reach its accomplishment in the final eradication of sin and the deliverance of all who have been willing to renounce evil. {GC 485.3}

31. What event precedes the second coming of Jesus, the close of the investigative judgment? Revelation 14:9,10,12-16 _____

The wide diversity of belief in the Protestant churches is regarded by many as decisive proof that no effort to secure a forced uniformity can ever be made. But there has been for years, in churches of the Protestant faith, a strong and growing sentiment in favor of a union based upon common points of doctrine. To secure such a union, the discussion of subjects upon which all were not agreed--however important they might be from a Bible standpoint--must necessarily be waived. {GC 444.2}

32. The above statement was fulfilled on October 31, 2017, when the apostate Protestant churches united with the Papacy.

33. The next step is the enforcing of the Sunday Law.

When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the state to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result. {GC 445.1}

34. What is the aim of the Jesuits of the Roman Catholic Church? _____

"Throughout Christendom, Protestantism was menaced by formidable foes. The first triumphs of the Reformation past, Rome summoned new forces, hoping to accomplish its destruction. **At this time the order of the Jesuits was created,** the most cruel, unscrupulous, and powerful of all the champions of popery. Cut off from earthly ties and human interests, dead to the claims of natural affection, reason and conscience wholly silenced, they knew no rule, no tie, but that of their order, and no duty but to extend its power. (See Appendix.)...There was no crime too great for them to commit, no deception too base for them to practice, no disguise too difficult for them to assume. **Vowed to perpetual poverty and humility, it was their studied aim to secure wealth and power, to be devoted to the overthrow of Protestantism, and the re-establishment of the papal supremacy.** {GC 234.2}

35. "Pope Francis: I feel like my papacy will last only four or five years" <http://www.catholicerald.co.uk/news/2015/03/13/pope-francis-on-st-peters-balcony-i-did-not-know-what-to-say/>

36. Pope Francis accomplished one of the two objectives on 10.31.2017. October 31, 2016 to October 31, 2017 was the year to celebrate the End of the Protestant Reformation, which begun with Pope Francis in Lund, Sweden. (see news report below) Pope Francis began his papacy in March 2013. March 2013 to October 2016 is 3 1/2 years. What's the next move of the Jesuits? What's the closing work of Jesus in the Heavenly Sanctuary? Stay Tuned! "Pope Francis highlighted two major priorities of his papacy at the start of a two-day visit to Sweden: efforts to heal the 500-year-old rift between Catholics and Protestants and concern for the plight of migrants." <https://www.wsj.com/articles/pope-arrives-in-sweden-to-commemorate-lutheran-reformation-1477914190>

37. Note: Many Seventh-day Adventists desire to be apart of this apostate union of the Papacy with apostate Protestants. Seventh-day Adventists are now saying that the Papacy has changed, therefore they are our family and we must end the protest.

Reading the lesson for this week, halfway into the first page I was already upset....What "claims to the contrary" is the author writing of? And why not mention rapprochement efforts over the past fifty years between Lutherans, Catholics, and others? **To say that "Rome has no more changed regarding this belief now than it did in 1520..." is misleading. Wouldn't it honor our God for us to at least affirm our Catholic and Lutheran family at this special 500-year mark? We do acknowledge that we are at least part of the same Christian family.** <https://spectrummagazine.org/article/2017/10/25/justification-faith>.

The official Church statement entitled, "How Seventh-day Adventists View Roman Catholics," ends this way: "Adventists seek to be fair in dealing with others. Thus, while we remain aware of the historical record and continue to hold our views regarding end-time events, **we recognize some positive changes in recent Catholicism, and stress the conviction that many Roman Catholics are brothers and sisters in Christ.**"[1] <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/official-statements/statements/article/go/-/how-seventh-day-adventists-view-roman-catholicism/> <https://spectrummagazine.org/article/2017/10/25/justification-faith>.

39. Read also Matthew 12:45-50

40. More recently, the same sentiments are found in the book Great Hope.

P.S. As you enjoy these chapters, remember that they were written in the context of the 19th century. Since then, some of the author's concerns have been addressed by Christian leaders of insight and integrity. (For example, Roman Catholics have become more involved with Scripture while maintaining their longtime heritage of ministry to suffering people everywhere.)

Introduction by Donna Jackson. <http://www.thegreathope.org/about-the-author.html>.

41. The papacy is just what prophecy declared that she would be, the apostasy of the latter times. 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4. It is a part of her policy to assume the character which will best accomplish her purpose; but beneath the variable appearance of the chameleon she conceals the invariable venom of the serpent. "Faith ought not to be kept with heretics, nor persons suspected of heresy" she declares. Shall this power, whose record for a thousand years is written in the blood of the saints, be now acknowledged as a part of the church of Christ? {GC 571.2}
42. (A) Seventh-day Adventism cannot change its views on the Catholic Church being the Whore of Babylon without admitting that it was wrong on Sunday worship. (B) It [Seventh-day Adventism] cannot admit that Sunday worship is not the mark of the beast without changing its views on the Jewish Sabbath. (C) Seventh-day Adventism cannot cease to be anti-Catholic without ceasing to be Seventh-day Adventism.... <https://www.catholic.com/tract/seventh-day-adventism>
43. I wonder sometimes if our identity depends upon Catholicism and "apostate Protestantism?" Might our need to criticize others for not changing their view be a weak tool to maintain our own identity. Maybe we need them to hold to their theology and not make any changes so that we can have a foil? Does our very existence as a Church owe itself to their position? The doctrine of justification by faith itself calls us to a greater whole as we accept our new life in Christ. I assert that this greater whole includes worldwide Christendom; all branches of the faith... Yes, even those other Christians who do not worship with us on Sabbath. <https://spectrummagazine.org/article/2017/10/25/justification-faith>.
44. We should see the Ecumenical movement as a positive dynamic for our present time. Diop "noted that while many denominations signed the Joint Declaration on Justification, Adventists did not because it did not fully reflect Adventist belief on the doctrine of justification by faith. Diop said that Adventists should be distinguished not only for what they are against but also for what they are for. He said that Adventists will mingle with other denominations while guarding their identity." <https://spectrummagazine.org/article/2017/10/25/justification-faith>. <https://atoday.org/highlights-of-the-final-two-days-of-annual-council-2017/>
45. "The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God. All need a knowledge for themselves of the position and work of their great High Priest. Otherwise it will be impossible for them to exercise the faith which is essential at this time or to occupy the position which God designs them to fill. Every individual has a soul to save or to lose. Each has a case pending at the bar of God. Each must meet the great Judge face to face. How important, then, that every mind contemplate often the solemn scene when the judgment shall sit and the books shall be opened, when, with Daniel, every individual must stand in his lot, at the end of the days. {GC 488.2}