**Rev 20:4**  And I saw thrones – and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them – and the lives of those who had been beheaded **because of the witness they bore to יהושע and because of the Word of Elohim**, and **who did not worship the beast, nor his image, and did not receive his mark** upon their foreheads or upon their hands. And they lived and reigned with Messiah for a thousand years

**Rev 20:5**  (**and the rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended**) – this is **the first resurrection**.

**Rev 20:6**  Blessed and set-apart is the one having part in the first resurrection. **The second death possesses no authority over these**, but they shall be priests of Elohim and of Messiah, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

**Rev 20:7**  And **when the thousand years have ended**, Satan shall be released from his prison,

**Rev 20:8**  and he shall go out to lead the nations astray which are in the four corners of the earth, Goḡ and Maḡoḡ, to gather them together for battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.

**Rev 20:9**  And they came up over the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the set-apart ones and the beloved city. And fire came down from Elohim out of the heaven and consumed them.

**Rev 20:10**  **And the devil, who led them astray, was thrown into the lake of fire and sulphur where the beast and the false prophet are. And they shall be tortured day and night forever and ever.**

**Rev 20:11**  And I saw a great white throne and Him who was sitting on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.

**Rev 20:12**  And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before the throne, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. **And the dead were judged from what was written in the books, according to their works**.

**Rev 20:13**  And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and She’ol gave up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, **each one according to his works.**

**Rev 20:14**  **And Death and She’ol were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death**.

**Rev 20:15**  And if anyone was **not found written in the Book of Life**, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

In verses 4-6 we see a group of people mentioned who had been beheaded for “**the witness** they bore to יהושע and because of **the Word** of Elohim, and **who did not worship the beast**, nor his image, and did not receive his mark.

We see the *Two-Part Principle* here (the Witness of Messiah and the Word [Torah] of YHWH) and we see that they were faithful to this principle even unto death (beheading), never granting authority and service to the Beast (Anti-Messiah).

Believing in Yahushua requires obedience to the Torah, which forbids giving authority and service to anything or anyone that opposes YHWH.

These Believers are those called up in the FIRST RESURRECTION, who will sit as judges and will live and reign with Messiah for a thousand years. These Believers are NOT subject to the judgment of the Second Death.

The Second Death is the Lake of Fire and the “rest of the dead” are subject to this judgment. This phrase, “rest of the dead”, refers to those who will take part in the second resurrection. There are two resurrections mentioned in the Scripture and they are characterized as follows…

**Dan 12:2**  and many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth wake up, **some to everlasting life**, and some **to reproaches, everlasting abhorrence**.

1. Everlasting Life
2. Reproaches and everlasting abhorrence

**Reproaches**: stg’s **#H2781** “cherpah”, from a word (H2778) meaning, to pull off; contumely (insolent or insulting language or treatment), disgrace. Refers to having all the hidden sins exposed and the shame associated to them.

**Abhorrence**: stg’s **#H1860** “dera’on”, from an unused root (meaning to repulse [drive away or intense distaste]); an object of aversion (a strong dislike or disinclination). Refers to a strong sense of contempt.

**Joh 5:26**  “For as the Father possesses life in Himself, so He gave also to the Son to possess life in Himself,

**Joh 5:27**  and He has given Him authority also to do judgment, because He is the Son of Aḏam.

**Joh 5:28**  “Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which **all those in the tombs shall hear His voice**,

**Joh 5:29**  **and shall come forth** – those **who have done good, to the resurrection of life**, and **those who have practised evil matters, to a resurrection of judgment**.

The first resurrection is for those who have the witness of Messiah and the Word/Torah of YHWH, those who have “done good” who are “righteous” (Luke 14:14) and “sons of Elohim” (Luke 20:26), these people who have the *Two-Part Principle* working in them will receive “everlasting life”.

The second resurrection is for those who, by contrast, DO NOT have the witness of Messiah and the Word/Torah of YHWH, those who DO NOT do good, but instead practice evil, these people will face the judgment of the Second Death, which is “reproaches and everlasting abhorrence” in the Lake of Fire.

**NOTE**: The terms, “good” and “evil”, have taken on relative meanings based on the viewpoint of the individual speaking them. However, YHWH defines these terms very specifically in His Torah.

**Deu 30:15**  “See, I have set before you today **life and** **good**, and **death and evil**,

**Deu 30:16**  in that I am commanding you today to **love יהוה** your Elohim, to **walk in His ways**, and to **guard His commands**, and **His laws**, and **His right-rulings**. **And you shall live** and increase, and יהוה your Elohim shall bless you in the land which you go to possess.

**Deu 30:17**  “**But if your heart turns away, and you do not obey**, and shall be drawn away, and shall bow down to other mighty ones and serve them,

**Deu 30:18**  “**I have declared to you today that you shall certainly perish**, you shall not prolong your days in the land which you are passing over the Yarděn to enter and possess.

**Deu 30:19**  “I have called the heavens and the earth as witnesses today against you: **I have set before you life and death**, the blessing and the curse. Therefore you shall **choose life**, so that you live, both you and your seed,

**Deu 30:20**  to love יהוה your Elohim, to obey His voice, and to cling to Him – for He is your life and the length of your days – to dwell in the land which יהוה swore to your fathers, to Aḇraham, to Yitsḥaq, and to Ya‛aqoḇ, to give them.”

From YHWH’s point of view, good represents EVERYTHING He has spoken, and evil represents EVERYTHING that is contrary to what He has spoken. Thus, to obey EVERYTHING He has commanded is doing what is GOOD, and NOT obeying EVERYTHING He has commanded is doing what is EVIL. So, the first resurrection is for those who have believed in Messiah Yahushua AND have obeyed EVERYTHING that YHWH has spoken, and the second resurrection is for those who DO NOT believe in Messiah Yahushua and have NOT obeyed EVERYTHING YHWH has spoken.

**Act 24:15**  having an expectation in Elohim, which they themselves also wait for, that there **is to be a resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the unrighteous**.

**Righteous**: stg’s **#G1342** “dikaios”, from a word (**G1349**) meaning, right or just; equitable (in character or act); by implication innocent, holy (absolutely or relatively): - just, meet, right (-eous). Refers to being in right standing (obedient) before YHWH.

**Unrighteous**: stg’s **#G94** “adikos”, from G1 (as a negative particle) and **G1349**; unjust; by extension wicked; by implication treacherous; specifically heathen: - unjust, unrighteous. Refers to NOT being in right standing before YHWH, having been disobedient.

**NOTE**: The Torah declares that righteousness comes from obeying ALL the Torah says.

**Deu 6:24**  And יהוה commanded us **to do all these laws, to fear יהוה** our Elohim, **for our good always**, **to keep us alive**, as it is today.

**Deu 6:25**  And **it is righteousness for us** when **we guard to do all this command before יהוה** our Elohim, as He has commanded us.’

Obeying EVERYTHING the Torah of YHWH commands is how we fear Him, it is for our good ALWAYS, including today, and it is meant to keep us alive. It is how we live righteously before Him.

It is vital that we understand that this Truth does not change after we believe in Yahushua Messiah as Savior. He came and died to free us from the penalty of death we owed for our past disobedience to the Torah (Rom 3:23-25).

Now, that we have been made free from that debt, the Torah of YHWH has been established in us as the Way we live righteously before Him by belief (Rom 3:31).

NOTHING has changed concerning how His people are to live righteously, the only thing that has changed is our position before Him, in that our past sin debt has been paid and our condemnation removed because of our belief in Messiah.

**Jud 1:4**  For **certain men have slipped in**, whose judgment was written about long ago, **wicked ones perverting the favour of our Elohim for indecency, and denying the only Master יהוה and our Master יהושע Messiah.**

**Jud 1:5**  But I intend to remind you, though you once knew this, that יהוה, having saved a people out of the land of Mitsrayim, **afterward destroyed those who did not believe.**

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**Jud 1:8**  In the same way, indeed, these dreamers **defile the flesh**, and **reject authority**, and **speak evil of esteemed ones**.

**Jud 1:9**  But Miḵa’ěl the chief messenger, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Mosheh, presumed not to bring against him a blasphemous accusation, but said, “יהוה rebuke you!”

**Jud 1:10**  But these blaspheme that which they do not know. And that which they know naturally, **like unreasoning beasts, in these they corrupt themselves**.

**Jud 1:11**  Woe to them! Because they have gone in **the way of Qayin**, and gave themselves to the **delusion of Bil‛am for a reward**, and perished in **the rebellion of Qoraḥ**.

**Jud 1:12**  These are **rocky reefs** in your love feasts, feasting with you, **feeding themselves without fear**, **waterless clouds borne about by the winds**, late autumn trees **without fruit**, **twice dead**, **pulled up by the roots,**

**Jud 1:13**  **wild waves of the sea foaming up their own shame**, **straying stars** for whom **blackness of darkness is kept forever.**

(See also: 2Pet 2:9-15)

So far, we have mentioned two types of people, those who believe in Messiah and obey the Torah of YHWH and those who do not. We also talked about which resurrection either type belongs. There is a third type of person that we need to talk about.

Jude talks about a third type of person, one who is within the Body of Messiah but does not live as a member of the Body, i.e. they do not obey the Torah of YHWH.

He calls them “wicked ones” who are “perverting the favour of our Elohim for indecency, and denying the only Master יהוה and our Master יהושע Messiah”.

**Wicked ones**: stg’s **#G765** “asebēs”, from G1 (as a negative particle) and a presumed derivative of G4576 (to revere); irreverent, that is, (by extension) impious or wicked: - ungodly (man). Refers to a person that has no fear or respect for the things of YHWH, i.e. disobedient to His Torah.

To “pervert the favor (grace) of Elohim” is to use His favor as a license to disobey His Torah (something Paul speaks against - Gal 2:15-18).

**Heb 10:26**  For if **we sin purposely** after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a slaughter offering for sins,

**Heb 10:27**  **but some fearsome anticipation of judgment, and a fierce fire which is about to consume the opponents.**

**Heb 10:28**  Anyone who has disregarded the Torah of Mosheh dies without compassion on the witness of two or three witnesses.

**Heb 10:29**  **How much worse punishment do you think shall he deserve who has trampled the Son of Elohim underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was set apart as common, and insulted the Spirit of favour?**

**Heb 10:30**  For we know Him who has said, “Vengeance is Mine, I shall repay, says יהוה.” And again, “יהוה shall judge His people.”

**Heb 10:31**  It is fearsome to fall into the hands of the living Elohim.

The writer of Hebrews says, “if we sin purposely after we come to the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a slaughter offering for sins, but some fearsome anticipation of judgment”. What “truth” is he referring to?

**Joh 14:6**  יהושע said to him, “**I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life**. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

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**Joh 17:17**  “Set them apart in Your truth – **Your Word is truth**.

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**Psa 119:142**  Your righteousness is righteousness forever, And **Your Torah is truth**.

The Truth contains both Yahushua Messiah AND the Word/Torah, The *Two-Part Principle*. It is clearly expressed in Isaiah 8:20 and Revelation 14:12.

**Isa 8:20**  **To the Torah and to the witness!** If they do not speak according to this Word, it is because they have no daybreak (light).

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**Rev 14:12**  Here is the endurance of the set-apart ones, here are **those guarding the commands of Elohim and the belief of יהושע**.

And, as we have seen, this characterizes the people of the first resurrection (Rev 20:4) who have “the witness they bore to יהושע and because of the Word of Elohim”.

Those who have the knowledge of this Truth and yet “sin purposely” have rejected the only sacrifice that could deliver them, having “trampled the Son of Elohim underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which **he was set apart** as common, and **insulted the Spirit of favour**”.

The definition of sin is “lawlessness” or “transgression of the Law” (KJV), and refers to disobeying the Torah of YHWH, which He gave to the people of Yisra’el at Mt. Sinai, through Moses. The Law/Torah that applied to both the ‘native born and the stranger” (Gentile) that sojourns with them (Num 15:15-16).

So, to disobey the Law/Torah of YHWH, as a believer, is a denial of Yahushua Messiah and ends in fiery judgment, i.e. the Lake of Fire.

Jude says these people bear “no fruit” and are “pulled up by the roots”, which correlates perfectly with what Messiah said about the “branches” that bear no fruit in John 15. And that, “Every branch in Me that **bears no fruit** (the Father) **takes away** (Joh 15:2) and “If anyone does not stay in Me, **he is thrown away as a branch and dries up**. And **they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned** (Joh 15:6). He goes on to say that these people are “twice dead”, which is a reference to the Second Death of the Lake of Fire.

Some people believe that their belief in Messiah (who they call Jesus) protects them from the Second Death, but that is only true if they “abide” in the Messiah by bearing the fruit of righteousness that comes ONLY through obedience to the Torah of YHWH.

Others say that the Second Death/Lake of Fire refers to complete annihilation (spirit, soul and body), because they do not believe that their “God” would make someone suffer forever.

Unfortunately, their “God” is not running the show, YHWH is, and He seems to suggest that He will.

**Rev 19:19**  And I saw the beast, and the sovereigns of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to fight Him who sat on the horse and His army.

**Rev 19:20**  And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he led astray those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshipped his image. **The two were thrown alive into the lake of fire burning with sulphur.**

We have already shown that the Second Death has to do with, “reproaches and everlasting abhorrence” (Dan 12:2) and those who go there “…shall be tortured day and night forever and ever” (Rev 20:10).

The Beast and the False Prophet are thrown into the Lake of Fire alive, which means they never actually die physical death like the rest of us, and yet their torment is still forever, in this physical body.

It seems obvious that the Lake of Fire isn’t about total annihilation, if it doesn’t even destroy our physical bodies, much less a resurrected body that cannot die.

When Paul talks about the resurrected body in 1 Corinthians 15, he does not differentiate between the resurrection of the good or the resurrection of the evil, he only states the difference between that physical body and the spiritual body.

If those who have rejected Messiah and those who have excepted Messiah but refused to live in obedience to the Torah of YHWH, get resurrected bodies, then they will suffer the judgment of the Lake of Fire, forever, unable to die and escape it.

This judgment is measured by the works they did while in this life, so not everyone will suffer to the same degree as someone like, say, Hitler, but they will still have to endure the penalty of their own disobedience.