

# The Four Last Things

Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell

## Wisdom 2:21-24

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These were their thoughts, but they erred;  
for their wickedness blinded them,  
And they did not know the hidden counsels of God;  
neither did they count on a recompense for holiness  
nor discern the innocent souls' reward.  
For God formed us to be imperishable;  
the image of his own nature he made us.  
But by the envy of the devil, death entered the world,  
and they who are allied with him experience it.

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# Death

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"I have lived like a dog, but I will die like a angel."

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# Death

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The curse of death has been transformed into a blessing by Christ.

What Jesus enters into He redeems.

He made it a gate.



# Death

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- ▶ "To live is Christ and to die is gain." – St. Paul
- ▶ What is a happy death?

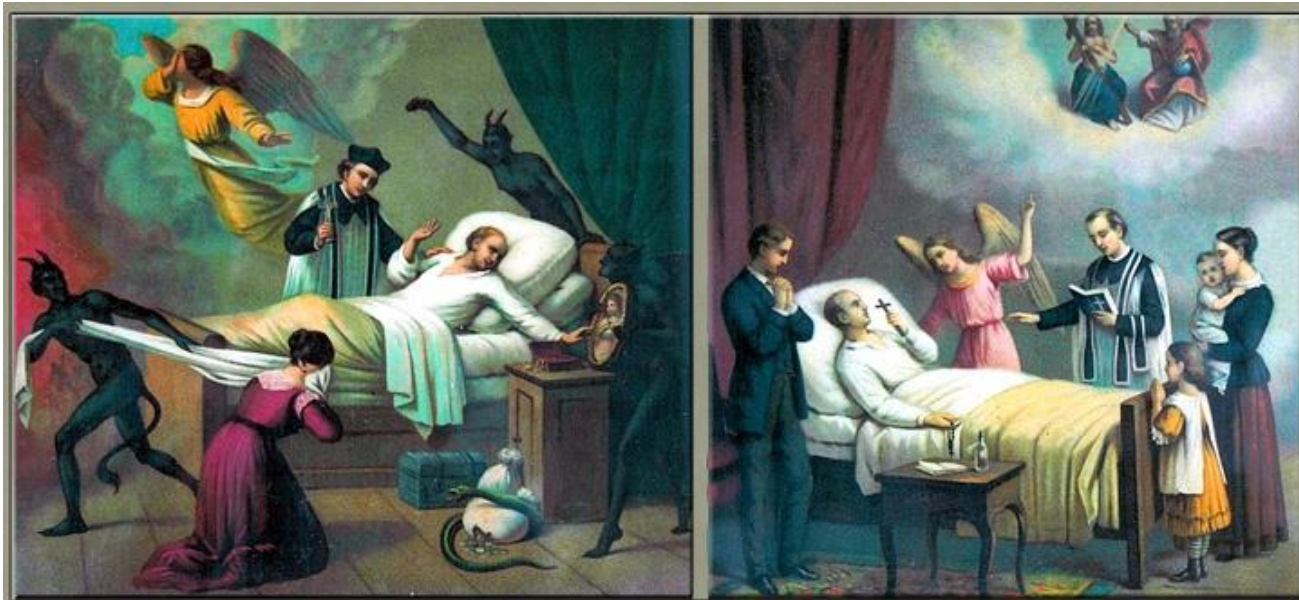


# Judgment

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## ▶ Particular Judgment

### ▶ What will it be like?



The Death of the Unrepentant Sinner



The Death of the Righteous

The Particular Judgment

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# Matthew 25:31-40

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- ▶ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him and say, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’ And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’”
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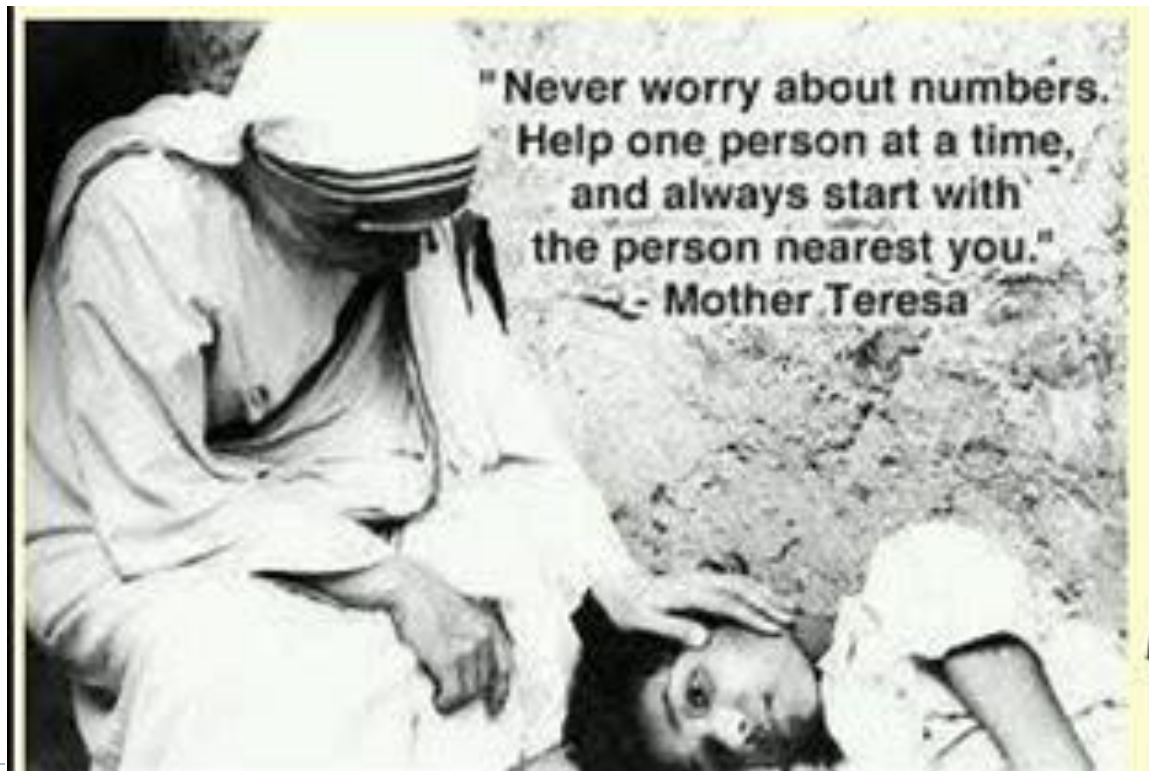


# Judgment

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The Gospel in 5 words:

**“You did it to me.”**





## Matthew 25: 41-46

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- ▶ Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’ Then they will answer and say, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?’ He will answer them, ‘Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.’ And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”
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# Judgment

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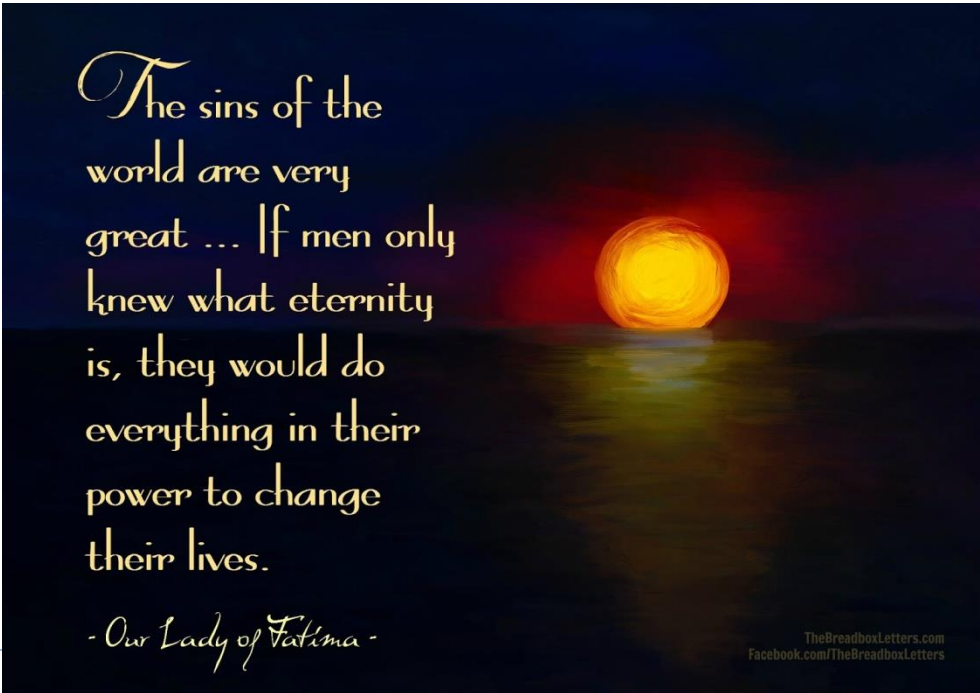
- ▶ "At the evening of our life we will be judged on our love."  
-- St. John of the Cross



# Judgment

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- ▶ CCC 1039 In the presence of Christ, who is Truth itself, the truth of each man's relationship with God will be laid bare. The Last Judgment will reveal even to its furthest consequences the good each person has done or failed to do during his earthly life.



*The sins of the  
world are very  
great ... If men only  
knew what eternity  
is, they would do  
everything in their  
power to change  
their lives.*

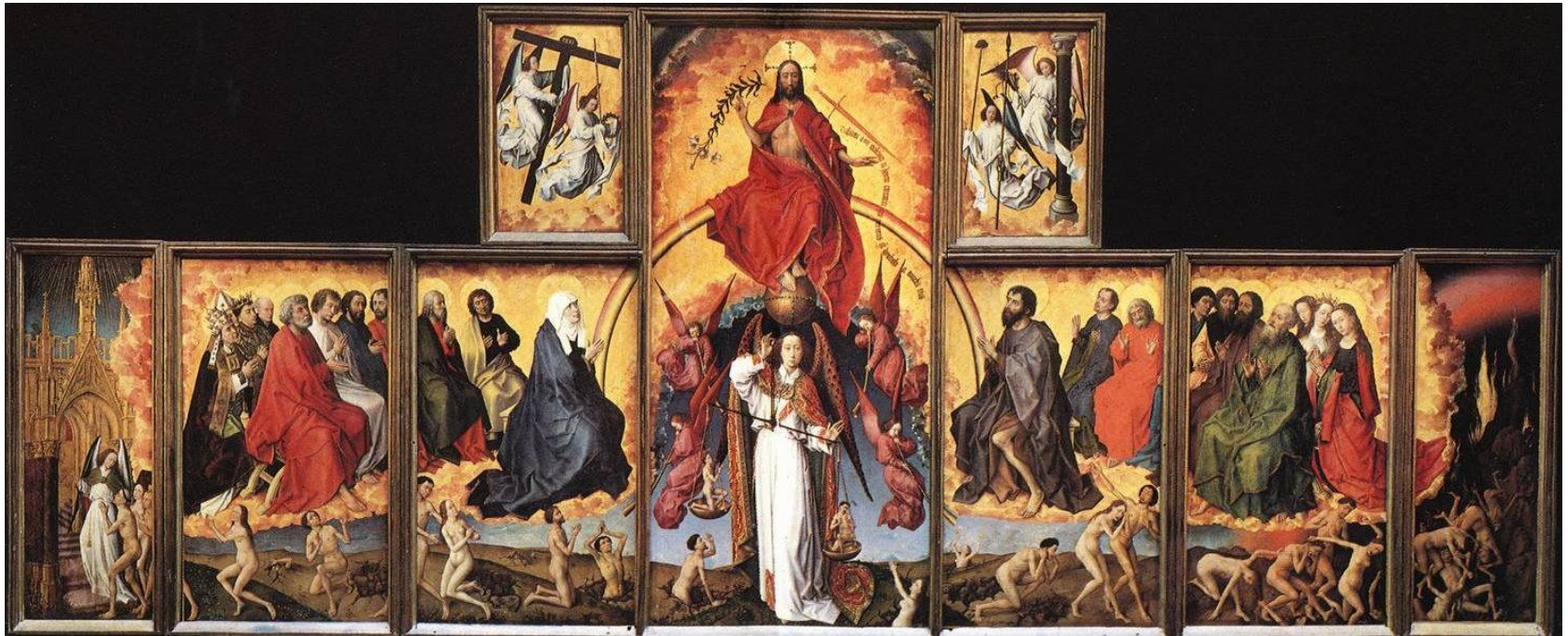
*- Our Lady of Fatima -*



# Judgment

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## ▶ General Judgment



The Last Judgment  
by Rogier van der Weyden

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# Heaven

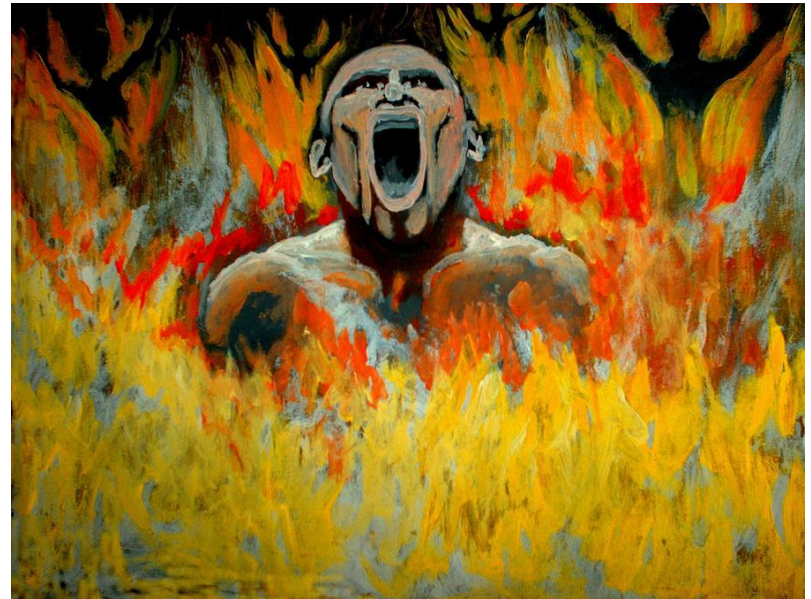
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# Hell

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- ▶ Russian author Dostoyevsky wrote, "The suffering of being unable to love."
- ▶ Pope St. John Paul II said, "hell is the definitive self-exclusion from God."



# Hell

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- ▶ In hell, no hope, no love.
- ▶ In hell, you will never see God's face.





The bottom line... your choice

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# Revelation 21:1-7

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- ▶ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them [as their God]. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has passed away.”
  - ▶ The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.” He said to me, “They are accomplished. I [am] the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son.
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# Purgatory

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Matthew 5:48, "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect."

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# Heaven

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- ▶ St. Paul said "no eye has seen and no ear heard what God has prepared for those who love Him."
  
- ▶ St. Anselm said "in Heaven, your will is perfectly conformed to God's will, therefore you will be perfectly happy because you will have everything you want."



# Prayer to St. Joseph for a Happy Death

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St Joseph, patron of the dying,  
obtain for me the grace to die,  
like thee,  
in the arms of Jesus and Mary.  
Amen.

