

What Happens During the Last Great Day?

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THIS BOOKLET IS NOT TO BE SOLD. The information provided is for the benefit of former members of the congregations of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG), and of current and prospective members of God's Church.

The Last Great Day is a time when men are resurrected and will be given to live for 100 years. Who are they? Then there will come the Great White Throne Judgment. Who are those who will then be judged and what will happen to those who lose their salvation? Let's examine what the Bible tells us about this last annual holy day which brings to an end God's master plan of salvation for mankind.

Preamble

Please Note: All comments in brackets [] or in parentheses () as well as highlighted text (bolded and/or in blue) are from the author of this study. Bible quotations are in maroon.

I think it is essential to clarify the question of the “Holy Spirit” before we begin this study. If we say that who or what is the “Holy Spirit” is the question that needs to be answered, we are starting from the assumption that there exists such a being as the Holy Spirit and that it is a separate and distinct being from God and the Word. The question which should be asked is who are the beings the Bible tell us are holy, whose composition is spirit and who have existed eternally? Either the Bible plainly tells us who are the separate and distinct beings that existed from all eternity who created all things (spirit beings and the material universe) or we have no way of getting an answer to our question.

The Holy Spirits of the God Family

The Bible tells us in Gen 1:1 that:

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

The Hebrew word translated “God” is “Eloheem” which is the plural form of “Eloah which means “God”. The word “Eloheem” refers to “gods.” It is a uniplural noun like family, group, team, etc. In the beginning, there was therefore more than one God being in existence but how many were there?

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In the beginning when God created the heaven and the earth there was God and there was another being with God who was also God, the Word. How can these two beings both be God; isn't that impossible?

The word God indicates the kind of existence of these 2 beings: their nature is to be God in the same way that all human beings have the same human nature. However, having the same nature does not mean that all human beings constitute a single being; indeed, they are all separate and distinct beings with their own personalities. God and the Word have in common the same nature or, level and type of existence, but they are separate and distinct beings just like all human beings who have the same human nature are separate and distinct beings.

God the Father

We read in the Bible that God became a father when the Word became flesh (Phi 2:5-8) by being born of woman after having been conceived in the virgin Mary by the holy spirit being called God (Luke 1:35). God from that point on became God the Father and the Word, who was born as the flesh-and-blood Jesus of Nazareth became God's Son or the Son of God. He was both fully God (his father was God and fully human (his mother was the virgin Mary).

Jesus was God the Father's only begotten son at the time when He was conceived in Mary's womb but He was not to be the only one begotten of the Father. God the Father is the holy spirit being in the Godhead that calls men to salvation.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Joh 18:9 That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou [God the Father] gavest me have I lost none.

1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

God the Word and Spokesman

The Bible term for being called is to be spiritually begotten by God the Father (1Pe 1:3). When we are begotten, we become a spiritual embryo that can be born again as a glorified spirit being with eternal life. Those begotten of the holy spirit God the Father who follow their calling are then able to come to the holy spirit being called the Word and Spokesman (John 6:44; 65; 18:9) who then teaches them. The glorified Jesus-Christ as God the Father's Word and Spokesman is the holy spirit being that works in the minds of God the Father's called and chosen ones.

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Jesus had to first be glorified for it to be possible for Christians to have access to the holy spirit called the Word and Spokesman because the glorified Christ is the holy spirit being who works in the minds of God's saints (John 14:17) in the same way that Satan is the evil spirit that works in the minds of the children of disobedience (Eph2:2).

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he [Christ] dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. [On the day of Pentecost, it would be in them and in all true Christians.]

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, [Satan] the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

The holy spirit God the Father calls men and those who follow their calling are then taught by the holy spirit called the Word and God the Father's Spokesman.

Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

The Holy Ghost

The expression “Holy Ghost” used in the Bible is in error as there are no ghosts in the Godhead but rather 2 beings that are holy (John 17:11; Isa 6:3) and spirit (John 4:24).

Joh 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

Isa 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy**, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Joh 4:24 **God is a Spirit:** and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

These 2 God beings who are holy and spirit are the holy spirit beings of the God family who existed in the beginning at the creation of all things.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

And, the Word who was with God is before all things i.e., *nothing* existed before He created them whether made of spirit or matter.

Col 1:15 [Christ] Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of every creature:

Col 1:16 For by him [the Word who became Jesus-Christ] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Col 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

In the beginning before anything either physical or spiritual was created, there was God and the Word who existed before all things and no other being is mentioned as having existed with them. There is no bib-

lical evidence that there ever existed a third, separate and distinct personage in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit” who dwelt in eternity with God and the Word.

God is a Family

Throughout the Bible we can find many verses which clearly indicates the existence of family relations between God and the Word and God’s called, chosen and faithful.

Mat 11:27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

Mat 12:50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Joh 20:17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

God is clearly a family in which many can be ultimately born again by a resurrection from the dead to eternal, glorified spirit life in God’s Kingdom.

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he [God’s Son] might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Col 1:18 And he [the glorified Christ] is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Christ was the first to be born again by a resurrection from the dead to be followed by many brethren.

Bible Writing Convention

The practice in the Bible has been to simply use the expression “the Holy Spirit” without indicating which God personage in the Godhead the expression represents. Over time, because of this practice, just about everybody has come to believe that the Holy Spirit is a separate and distinct God being in the Godhead but, there is no single verse or group of verses in the Bible that prove the existence of such a third being in the Godhead. The words “holy” and “spirit” are adjectives that describe the nature of

God the Father and of God the Word i.e., they are holy beings made of spirit.

Whenever we encounter the expressions the “Holy Spirit” or simply the “Holy Spirit” in the Bible we must look at the context to determine of which holy spirit being of the Godhead the Bible is talking about: the holy spirit, God the Father or the holy spirit, the Word and Spokesman.

The Word is the holy spirit being in the Godhead who carries out the instructions and wishes of the holy spirit, God. He is the faithful son who seeks to do his father’s will in all things. He is the member of the God family that did the work of creating the heaven and the earth, who ruled over ancient Israel through Moses and his human successors, He is the one who became a man who suffered and died to be God the Father’s perfect sacrifice for sin and make the salvation of mankind possible, etc. and He came to reveal the Father to those who follow the Father’s calling.

Making Things Clearer

In this study, when referring to God’s spirit who, depending on the circumstances can be the holy spirit personage called God the Father or the holy spirit personage called God the Word and Spokesman, I will not capitalize either of the adjectives “holy” and “spirit”. This is in order to not perpetuate the false impression in the minds of readers that there is a 3rd being in the Godhead called the “Holy Spirit.” Instead, I will refer to either of the holy spirits in the God family as being God’s spirit without capitalizing the word “spirit” to make it plain that we are not referring to a third God being in the God family called the “Holy Spirit” but to one of the 2 God beings in the Godhead.

God’s family is presently made up of 2 holy spirit beings to which are to be added thousands and possibly millions of other holy spirit beings when God’s plan of salvation for mankind has reached its end. The saints that endure in the faith until the end of their natural human life, will be resurrected as individual holy spirit beings in God’s Kingdom when it is established.

There are two studies which you can read regarding what is the “Holy Spirit” and decide for yourself in light of the Bible-based evidence offered if such a being exists in the Godhead. These studies are: [What is the Holy Spirit? Cliff Notes Version](#) and [Who or What is the Holy Spirit?](#)

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In this study we will review what the Bible tells us about what will happen during the Last Great Day (LGD), who are those who will be raised up to be part of the LGD, whether they are raised up as physical mortal human beings or as spirit beings, why is it necessary for them to be in the LGD and what occurs at the end of the LGD.

God's Plan of Salvation

God created mankind in order to reproduce Himself and the way this is to happen is by truly converted Christians being raised from the dead or being transformed while alive to glorified spirit existence. Accordingly, in the Bible, we read that there will be a number of resurrections that are to occur as God's plan of salvation advances to its ultimate conclusion at the time of the Great White Throne Judgment (GWTJ).

Students of the Bible are already aware of the resurrection that will occur at the time of Christ's Second Coming which is one of several others that will take place before God's plan of salvation ends. After the first resurrection, in time order, there will be a resurrection at the beginning of the Last Great Day (LGD) and another time of resurrection at the end of the LGD which will complete God's plan of salvation.

In this study, we will examine all the resurrections mentioned in the Bible in order to be able to come to a correct understanding of the events that will take place during the LGD. The first and the second resurrections provides us with essential information we need to understand the LGD.

The Resurrection at Christ's 2nd Coming

Christ's Second Coming occurs at the blowing of the last trump or 7th trumpet of the 7th seal of the book of Revelation.

Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

This is the time when Satan is removed from the throne of the earth and is replaced by the glorified Christ. Satan and his demons' rule over the earth was spiritual and the transfer of power or of rulership at the blowing of the 7th trumpet will also be at the spiritual level. The glorified Christ who is the holy spirit God the Word and Spokesman will ultimately rule over all those from the nations of the world who come to conversion and remain faithful until the end of their lives. All of mankind will be called and given an opportunity for salvation and Christ will only rule over those who self-willingly submit to Him when they are called. Satan ruled the world by exerting influence over the minds of men and Christ will rule the world by teaching those who voluntarily submit to Him and voluntarily seek to follow God's law as best they can.

Christ shall reign forever and ever over those who come to conversion, remain faithful and become glorified, immortal spirit being by a resurrection from the dead or by being changed to immortal spirit life while alive at the time when the different resurrections will occur. As this study progresses, it will be proven using the Bible that there will be some who will not die the first death but be changed or transformed while alive into immortal spirit being.

Let's continue reading Rev 11.

Rev 11:16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

Rev 11:17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

Rev 11:18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and **the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great;** and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

At the time of Christ's Second Coming, there will be a resurrection of God's saints who are all those who were called, chosen and faithful from the time of Adam and Eve to Christ's 2nd Coming. This will include His prophets and all those who fear His name small and great.

Paul in 1 Thessalonians and in 1 Corinthians 15 gives us more information about this first resurrection.

1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you **by the word of the Lord**, that we which are **alive** and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

Something new is being said here which hadn't been realized before. It was commonly understood that at Christ's 2nd Coming, the dead in Christ would be resurrected to immortal spirit life as stated in Rom 8:11.

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

However, in 1Th 4:15 Paul clearly tells us that "...**by the word of the Lord**..." which is to say, according to what Christ taught him and the other apostles, those who are alive at the time of His Second Coming will be changed to immortal spirit life without first dying.

Let's continue reading 1Th 4.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the **dead** in Christ shall rise first:

1Th 4:17 Then we which are **alive** and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we **[the resurrected dead and those who were alive]** ever be with the Lord.

If those who were alive will ever be with the Lord with those who were resurrected from the dead then it means that those who were alive have become immortal spirit beings just like those who were resurrected. Nothing is said in these verses that those alive had to first die to be changed to immortal spirit beings.

Let's continue with 1Co 15.

1Co 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot

inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

The body with which those resurrected from the dead will have will no longer be a flesh-and-blood body subject to death and decay. The mortal body will return to the dust of the ground from which it was formed.

Gen2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Psa 103:14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

Ecc 12:7 Then **[at the time of death]** shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Now, continuing with 1Co 15.

1Co 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not **all** sleep, **[die]** but we shall **all** be changed,

Here Paul very clearly says something that had gone by unnoticed until now and that is that, not all truly converted Christians will die the first death. *All of God's faithful saints will be changed to immortal spirit life whether dead or alive at Christ's 2nd Coming.*

1Co 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: **[the 7th trumpet of the 7th seal of Revelation]** for the trumpet shall sound, and the **dead** shall be raised incorruptible, and we **[who are alive]** shall be changed.

1Co 15:53 For this corruptible **[material body]** must put on incorruption, **[become composed of spirit]** and this mortal **[physical body]** must put on immortality. **[become an immortal spirit body]**

When those alive are changed or transformed into immortal spirit beings, their corruptible bodies will remain behind and return to being the dust of the ground because flesh-and-blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God (1Co 15:50).

But what about Heb 9:27?

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but

after this the judgment:

This verse of Hebrews was written by Paul who also wrote the verses of ICo 15 we have just been reading. On the surface of it, there seems to be a contradiction between Heb 9:27 and ICo 15:51.

1Co 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

How can this be resolved?

1Th 4:15 For this we [the apostles] say unto you [God's saints] by the word of the Lord, [according to what the Lord told us] that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent [precede] them which are asleep. [dead]

The Greek word translated "prevent" has as one of its meanings, "to precede." The word "precede" means "to come before something or someone in time, order, or rank" (Merriam-Webster dictionary). So what Paul is saying in 1Th 4:15 is that *the resurrection to spirit life of the dead in Christ at His Second Coming will be followed immediately by the change/transformation of God's saints who are then alive and together they will rise up to meet Christ in the air who is coming back to this earth* 1 Th 4:17.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the **dead** in Christ shall rise first:

1Th 4:17 Then we which are **alive** and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

According to 1Th 4: 15, Christ Himself at His First Coming taught His disciples that His saints who are **alive** at His Second Coming will also become immortal spirit beings and rise up with those who were dead and resurrected to immortal spirit life to meet the Lord in the air. Their change (of those alive) is not as a result of a resurrection from the dead; they will will be changed or transformed into immortal spirit beings without first having to die.

Therefore, what Christ taught His disciples and Paul allows us to resolve the seeming contradiction between Heb 9:27 and ICo15:51. When both Scriptures are taken together in light of Christ's teaching to His apostles,

the correct and intended meaning is that it is appointed to all men once to die the first death except those saints of God who will be alive at the time when the different resurrections will occur.

Knowing this, gives us new understanding of what will happen in the resurrections occurring at the beginning of the Last Great Day and in the Great White Throne Judgment.

The Last Great Day Resurrection

The great resurrection that occurs at the beginning of the Last Great Day will be similar to the one that occurred at Christ's 2nd Coming, only this one will be only to flesh-and-blood existence. It will be the resurrection of all those since Adam and Eve to Christ's 2nd Coming who were never called. It will be the time of their judgment but how can they be judged since they were never called?

The answer can be found in the 2 different meanings possible for the word "judgment." A judgment can be the act of passing sentence i.e., making a final decision that something is good or bad. And, it can also refer to a period of time where an individual's behavior is observed and put to the test to determine whether the person will conduct their lives as best they can according to God's standards or not.

When one is called and does not follow his calling, he is judged as not wanting to be part of God's Kingdom. Their preference is to continue on with their lives in the world even if it means losing their salvation.

When one is called and follows his calling, God judges or evaluates his attitude of continuing obedience to Him until the end of his physical life by taking note of what the person does after having committed himself to obey Him. God's saints who constitute God's Church are under judgment (are under evaluation by God) all through their lives.

1Pe 4:17 For the time is come that **judgment** must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them [**those called and those chosen**] that obey not the gospel of God?

This is why that those who followed their calling and have died, and God's saints who are alive at the time of Christ's 2nd Coming, will be judged in the sense of being sentenced which is to say, God will give them immortal life spirit life and reward them according to their works of obedience. But, for all those who were never called, they have never been under judgment because they have never believed that God ex-

isted and that salvation required that they obey Him to the best of their abilities until the end of their lives.

Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind [the unconverted mind] is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Never having been called they were hostile to God and could not be subject to His law. Their time of calling and judgment will be in the resurrection to flesh-and-blood life at the beginning of the Last Great Day.

God's desire is that all should come to repentance and He has allowed mankind 7,000 years for that very purpose.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

The Christians in Peter's day were eager for Christ's 2nd Coming to occur but Peter tells them that God is proceeding with patience to give everyone a chance to come to repentance.

Rom 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

And, it is God who, according to His working out of His plan of salvation for mankind, will eventually give all of humanity a chance to repent. God started calling men on the day of Pentecost and those who followed their calling and remained faithful will be part of the first resurrection to immortal spirit life at Christ's 2nd Coming. Now is not the time when all men are being called but during the Millennium (Joe 2:28) and at the beginning of the LGD, all who were never called will be given their opportunity to repent (Is 65:20).

Joe 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

All those who were not called from the time of Adam and Eve to Christ's

2nd Coming will be resurrected to flesh-and-blood existence at the beginning of the Last Great Day. The first part of Is 65:20 is about the resurrection to mortal life of those never called and the second part is about their judgment (becoming immortal spirit beings or being sentenced to the Lake of Fire) which takes place at the end of the LGD in the Great White Throne Judgment (GWTJ).

Isa 65:20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, [a child] nor an old man that hath not filled his days: [the child and the old man will live 100 years] for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. [At the end of the 100 year period they will be judged (sentenced). Some will be saved and some will lose their salvation. Their judgment (evaluation) had been ongoing for 100 years.]

The Great White Throne Judgment

At the end of the Last Great Day, there is to occur a 3rd Resurrection which has been called the Resurrection to Judgment. It is not only a resurrection to condemnation. In the resurrection of the Great White Throne Judgment there will be some who will be saved and some who will lose their salvation.

Rev 20:11 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.

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; [they are alive, they have been resurrected to mortal life] and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead [resurrected and alive standing before God] were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. [did they or not follow their calling and did they or not remain faithful if they did]

Rev 20:13 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.

Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book

of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Here is a time, when all men from all nations and all times who had not been called will have been given to know the truth. This will include God's Millennial saints and those who during the Millennium rejected their calling and those who did not remain faithful. They will all be resurrected to flesh-and-blood existence at the end of the LGD which is the time when the GWTJ will occur.

We have then arrived at the very end of God's plan of salvation. The whole world will have been judged (evaluated not sentenced) and then will be the time during the Great White Throne Judgment at the end of the Last Great Day, when Christ will sentence men to eternal life in His Kingdom or to the Second Death in the Lake of Fire from which no resurrection is possible.

Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Mat 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

Mat 25:33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

There is a group of individuals that will not be included in this 3rd Resurrection and these are those from all nations who were called, chosen and faithful and who became the Bride of Christ in the First Resurrection which occurred at the time of Christ's 2nd Coming.

The Great White Throne judgment will therefore include:

- Those who were resurrected to flesh-and-blood existence in the Second Resurrection of the LGD at the **beginning** of the LGD. These are those who lived and died from the time of Adam and Eve to Christ's 2nd Coming and who **were never called**. This will be their first and only opportunity for salvation; they will live until the end of the LGD. It will be their time of judgment (evaluation by God).

- Those who lived and died from the days of Adam and Eve to the beginning of the Last Great day (includes the Millennium) **who were called** and didn't follow their calling or remain faithful to it and those who lived and died during the Millennium who remained faithful to their calling until the end of their lives. They are all resurrected to flesh-and-blood existence.

Those who took part in the first resurrection and are already immortal spirit beings and Christ's Bride, as previously mentioned, will not be part of the GWTJ.

Christ is the one who will then execute judgment.

Joh 5:26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; [eternal life; immortality]

Joh 5:27 And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

Joh 5:28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, [they have not yet been resurrected but they will come alive again when they hear God's voice]

Joh 5:29 And shall come forth; [be resurrected] they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; [resurrected to flesh-and-blood existence; the sheep] and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation. [be resurrected to flesh-and-blood life and perish in the Lake of Fire (the goats) which is the Second Death from which no resurrection is possible]

Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Mat 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

Mat 25:33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right

hand, **Come**, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Mat 25:34 is the time when the sheep, flesh-and-blood physical men, are transformed into glorified, immortal spirit beings and become part of God's Kingdom.

God's faithful saints who died during the Millennium and those who lose their salvation are first resurrected to flesh-and-blood existence. This is followed by the resurrection to immortal spirit life of God's LGD saints who are those who were resurrected to flesh-and-blood existence at the beginning of the LGD and who faithfully followed their calling; the others who did not will remain flesh-and-blood and die in the Lake of Fire.

All those resurrected at the beginning of the LGD and at the time of the GWTJ are resurrected to flesh-and-blood existence. How can we know?

The GWTJ will be of live physical mortal men. This is why those losing their salvation will be weeping and gnashing their teeth. Gnashing teeth is something only human beings can do and only human beings can be affected by fire i.e., die in the lake of fire that follows the GWTJ.

Luk 13:28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

Mat 25:30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

God's faithful saints of the Millennium and of the LGD will become glorified spirit beings and become part of the Kingdom of God. All those who since Adam and Eve as well as those who during the Millennium and the Last Great Day refused their calling or departed from it are resurrected as flesh-and-blood individuals at the end of the LGD. They are all consumed in the Lake of Fire (God destroys body and soul (Mat 10:28) which is to say, they can never be resurrected and their existence forever ceases.

Mat 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not

able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

The words “soul” in this verse refers to the spirit in man or to the human spirit which gives life to the physical body and which goes back to God at the time of death. It is then a perfect spiritual record of the physical man who has died which God will use to restore him to life at the tie of the resurrection of the dead. And the word “body” refers to the physical, mortal body which in hell or death is destroyed as it turns to dust. God is the only one who can kill the soul which is to say, cause the existence of a man to cease forever and this is what occurs for all those (the goats in the GWTJ) who will be cast into the Lake of Fire which the Bible calls the second death and brings to an end the the time of the GWTJ.

The sheep who are God’s faithful saints who died during the Millennium and who were resurrected to flesh-and-blood life and God’s Last Great Day saints who are also flesh-and-blood at the time of the Great White Throne Judgment become immortal spirit being? They are all changed or transformed while alive to immortal spirit life in the same way God’s First Resurrection saints who were alive were changed at Christ’s 2nd Coming.

These 2 groups of saints both undergo 2 changes: first they are resurrected as mortal human beings then they are changed/transformed while alive to immortal spirit life. It is not necessary for them to die again for them to after be resurrected to immortal spirit life. Their change comes while they are still alive.

Then God moves on to the next stage of His great master plan of salvation i.e., the creation of a new heaven and of a new earth (Rev 21:1).

Rev 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

This is different from the understanding we previously had of these matters. So given this new information how many resurrections are there?

- We have the first resurrection at Christ’s 2nd Coming where the dead in Christ are raised to immortal spirit life and those who are alive are changed/transformed to glorified spirit life without first dying.
- The 2nd resurrection at the beginning of the Last Great Day to mortal life of all those who were never called.
- A 3rd resurrection to mortal life of those who lost their salvation who lived and died from Adam and Eve to the beginning of the LGD. They

had been called but did not follow their calling or they had followed it but did not remain faithful

- A 4th resurrection to human life of God's Millennial saints which occurs at the time of the GWTJ.

God's flesh-and-blood Millennial saints and God's flesh-and-blood Last Great Day saints are the sheep who are changed/transformed into immortal spirit beings while still alive as were God's saints who were alive at the time of the first resurrection at Christ's 2nd Coming.

I know that this doesn't correspond to what has been taught in the congregations of the Worldwide Church of God but this is what a careful reading of the Scriptures reveal.

Summary and Conclusion

The first resurrection takes place at the time of Christ's 2nd Coming. It is a resurrection to glorified, immortal spirit life and includes all those called, chosen and faithful since Adam and Eve to the beginning of the Millennium. They become the Bride of Christ. Among those who are changed to glorified spirit beings are Christians who are then alive.

The second resurrection happens at the beginning of the Last Great Day and is to flesh-and-blood life. It includes all human beings who have ever lived and who were never called in first 6,000 years of God's plan of salvation. Their time of judgment (evaluation) will be during the 100 year time period the GWTJ and the time of their judgment (sentencing) will be in the GWTJ at the end of the LGD.

The 3rd resurrection at the end of the LGD which occurs at the time of the GWTJ is to flesh-and-blood existence. It will include all those since the days of Adam and Eve who lost their salvation by either rejecting their calling or not being faithful to it. And, it will also include God's millennial saints who died in the faith during the Millennium.

Then comes the GWTJ where Christ will separate those resurrected into two groups, those losing their salvation (the goat) and those who are saved (the sheep). At that point in time, all those assembled before the Christ's great white throne are mortal human beings; none have become glorified spirit beings.

Those who will be in the GWTJ as the goats are all those called who rejected their calling or who did not remain faithful to it from Adam and Eve to the beginning of the Millennium and all those resurrected at the beginning of the LGD who rejected their calling or did not remain faithful to it.

The sheep will be God's faithful millennial saints and God's faithful LGD saints. These 2 groups will cover all of humanity except those who were resurrected at Christ's 2nd Coming and who became the Bride of Christ.

Christ then calls the sheep to come and inherit the kingdom prepared for them since the foundation of the world. This is the time when God's LGD saints and God's Millennial saints who are all mortal human beings will be changed/transformed into glorified, immortal spirit beings and the goat will remain flesh and blood human beings and die the second death in the Lake of Fire.

