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Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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The Death of Death and All of His Friends

Revelation 20

Series: The Return of the King – The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Central Passage

Revelation 20:11–15 (ESV) — **11** Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. **12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. **13** And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. **14 Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15** And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Central Thought: Ultimately, the gospel of Jesus Christ is about the full and final defeat of Death and any and all people or powers that have aligned themselves with the ways of Death and Darkness.

The First Death

- ❖ Our physical death (the First Death) is not final, and our faithfulness will be rewarded. (vs. 1-6)

Matthew 19:27–30 (ESV) — **27** Then Peter said in reply, "See, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?" **28** Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. **29** And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. **30** But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

The Satan (The Devil)

- ❖ Satan's power is real, but derivative, and his days are numbered. (vs. 7-10)

John 12:27–32 (ESV) — **27** "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. **28** Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." **29** The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." **30** Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. **31 Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. 32** And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

Final Judgment and the Second Death

- ❖ Jesus is the Judge, and our behavior matters – forever!

2 Corinthians 5:10 (ESV) — **10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.