GOD’S HARD DRIVE

In our first lesson, we saw that God formed the physical body of Adam out of the dust of the ground with all its organs and systems. Adam’s body was perfect but lifeless, so God infused into his nostrils the breath of life, and all the organs and systems began to function. From the start, the brain began to input, record, and classify all the information that came in through the five senses. From his first breath, Adam began to write his life history, which was recorded in his brain in the minutest detail. In the course of his life, he formed his own unique self-identity, distinct from that of any other person. Every act, thought, word, emotion, and motive was recorded in his brain.

When Adam died at age 930, his entire life had been stored in a few pounds of flesh! After death, Adam’s brain disintegrated and, along with it, his entire life record. God had a backup stored in heaven, however. “As the artist takes on the polished glass a true picture of the human face, so the angels of God daily place upon the books of heaven an exact representation of the character of every human being.” (Ellen G. White, In Heavenly Places (Washington, DC: Review and Herald, 1967), 360.) If written today, it might be said that God stores our character or life history on His “heavenly hard drive.”

This is where we begin our study. Three Bible topics will be looked at simultaneously: the state of the dead, the pre-Advent investigative judgment, and the second coming of Jesus. Seeing as these beliefs are so closely linked that misunderstanding one will lead to misunderstanding all three.
Read Daniel 7 and Revelation 20:11-15 from the translation of your choice. Write out Daniel 7:9, 10, 27. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Daniel 7 and Revelation 20:11–15. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

How is your confidence and assurance in Christ as your Advocate, Judge, and Redeemer in the judgment?

How is the investigative judgment great news?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dead08-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How is spiritual development related to character, personality, and your individuality?

Read more at
www.inversebible.org/dead08-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

- Ecclesiastes 12:7, 13, 14
- Philippians 4:3
- Daniel 12:1, 2
- John 5:28, 29
- Job 19:25-27
- Revelation 22:12

What other verses come to mind in connection with Daniel 7 and Revelation 20:11–15?

Review your memorized verse from Daniel 7 and Revelation 20:11–15.
Meditate on Daniel 7 and Revelation 20:11–15 again and look for where Jesus is.

Where is Christ’s role in relation to your death, your judgment, and your resurrection?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week's study of the chapter, what are personal applications you are convicted of in your life?

What are practical applications you must make in your family, studies, workplace, and church?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/dead08-7
Share insights from this week's memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

How can initial fears regarding the judgment be overcome?

According to the Bible, what does God record on His "heavenly hard drive"? When will God reveal the total contents on the "hard drive" (cf. Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, 666–668)?

Who are the only ones examined in the pre-Advent investigative judgment? Why not the wicked?

Where are the righteous dead while the heavenly judgment transpires? If they are dead, how can they appear before the judgment seat of Christ in heaven?

What biblical evidence do we have that the pre-Advent investigative judgment transpires while the door of probation is still open?

If we are saved by grace through faith, why will we be judged by our works?