The book of Revelation

Chapter 20-Part 2

1. The fall of the last and great foe (20:7-10)

-When the thousand years are finished Satan will be loosed and allowed to begin a ______ period of intense persecution of the church. He will deceive the nations so that they begin a last and great persecution of the church (16:13-16).

-"When the thousand years are finished, Satan is released from his prison. Then it becomes very clear that the final and most ______ persecution, by means of which anti-Christian forces are going to oppress the Church, is instigated, in a most direct manner, by Satan himself." (211)

-"Now, as the thousand years draw to a close, John's vision has again reached that point in history immediately before the coming of the Lamb to complete God's wrath against His enemies, when the dragon's demonic deception will have gathered a worldwide conspiracy against the Lord and His ______." (Johnson, 294)

-This great army of Satan is here referred to as "Gog and Magog" and it is a very large army. Gog and Magog are names that come from Ezekiel 38-39 where the Lord promised to destroy Gog and Magog with ______ and _____ (Ezek. 38:22). One can either see this prophecy of Ezekiel as pointing directly to this great end-times battle or referring to the destruction of Antiochus Epiphanes in the second century (Hendriksen's view) and the Lord is here using that language to refer to what will take place at the end.

-"In the passage that we are studying, 'God and Magog' are identified with 'the nations which are in the four corners of the earth.' This expression, however, does not mean the most ______ nations. The term 'the four corners of the earth' simply means 'the whole world.' The entire wicked world is going to persecute the Church." (213)

-This battle is the ______ battle that has been mentioned several times already. There are not three great battles but one final battle. "We have here one and the same battle. It is the battle of Har-Magedon in all three cases. It is the final attack of the anti-Christian forces upon the Church." (213)

-As this great army looks like it will have the final victory over the Church the Lord sends fire from heaven to consume the wicked world and the devil is thrown into the lake of fire to suffer there ______ and ever.

-"The torment signified by the 'lake' and its 'fire and brimstone' is not merely physical, since the devil is a spirit and the beast and false prophet represent not individual human beings but institutional forces...the lake of fire will mean unremitting anguish of body as well as ..." (Johnson, 296)

2. Judgment Day (20:11-15)

-After the destruction of the Church's final enemy John sees a vision of the final judgment. There is a great white throne (white is the color of _____) with the Lord seated on it and the earth and sky flee from His presence. This is a picture of the removal of the "first order" that was tainted by the fall-all things are going to be made new being purged and purified by fire.

-"Now the _____ created order flees, and with it disappears the 'first things' introduced by the sin and rebellion of the dragon..." (Johnson, 297)

-All men (great and small) are seen standing before the Lord and books are opened. There is only ______ final judgment and all men are at it (believer and unbeliever). There are multiple books opened: books containing the deeds of men and the book of life. Everyone who has ever lived will be at this final judgement.

-"Here is one, ______ resurrection of all the dead. The entire Bible teaches but one, general resurrection (read John 5:28-29). This one and only and general resurrection takes place at the last day (John 6:39, 44, 54). Nowhere in the entire Bible do we read of a resurrection of the bodies of believers, followed, after a thousand years, by a resurrection of the bodies of unbelievers." (215)

-All those who are not hidden in Christ (through faith) stand before God naked (Heb. 4:13) with nothing to show Him but their life of ______ deeds (and the Lord has recorded every single one). The wicked are judged according to their deeds and are cast into the lake of fire. Then Death and Hades are cast into the lake of fire fulling the Scriptures which speak of the enemy to be defeated will be death itself (1 Cor. 15:26).

-"Written in this book (the book of life) are not deeds but ______...while people are justly judged according to their deeds, only those inscribed in the Lamb's book of life will escape the lake of fire. They have been judged already according to Jesus' deeds-His obedience as the faithful witness and His sacrifice as the Lamb-and consequently their vindication is sure." (Johnson, 299)