

THE CERTAINTY OF THE JUDGMENT

1 What does the Bible teach about the characteristics of God's throne?

PSALM 89:14 "_____ and _____ are the foundation of Your _____; _____ and _____ go before Your face."

Righteousness, justice, mercy, and truth are part of the foundation of God's government. These characteristics play an intricate role in the examination of the lives of God's people. All who have ever claimed to serve God will have their lives measured against these qualities.

2 What are we told about our appointment with God in the judgment?

2 CORINTHIANS 5:10 "For we must _____ before the _____ seat of _____, that each one may _____ the things _____ in the body, _____ to _____ he has done, whether _____ or _____."

Everyone will have his or her life's work pass in review before Christ's judgment seat. Our words and our deeds are examined as a testimony for or against our profession. The evidence will either exonerate or condemn us.

3 How did Daniel the prophet describe the judgment scene?

DANIEL 7:9-10 "I watched till _____ were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was _____; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; (10) A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The _____ was _____, and the _____ were _____."

The language of Daniel indicates a court setting. The Ancient of Days being seated, the multitude standing before Him, and the books being opened all give evidence that the multitude will be judged based on what's written in the book.

4 Who is the presiding Judge in the judgment?

JOHN 5:22 "For the _____ judges _____ one, but has _____ judgment to the _____."

Many think that Jesus is our lawyer and His Father is our Judge. In this setting they picture Jesus trying to convince His Father to save us. But that is not the truth according to Scripture. When we understand how the judgment scene is configured, then we will have confidence to face the judgment. Jesus is our Lawyer and our Judge. When we live righteously, and are covered by the righteousness of Christ, the verdict will be in our favor.

5 What additional duties does the Bible connect with our Judge?

1 JOHN 2:1 "My little _____, these things I write to you, so that you may _____ sin. And if anyone _____, we have an _____ with the _____, _____ the _____."

Jesus is our Judge and Lawyer. If you had a defense attorney that was also your judge, you would not fear going to court. You know that the purpose of your attorney is to have you exonerated. The purpose of the judge is to decide whether your attorney's case clearly supports your innocence. But if your attorney is also your judge, the court is rigged in your favor.

6 How does the Bible reveal that the court is in our favor?

DANIEL 7:22 "...Judgment was made in _____ of the _____ of the _____, and the time came for the saints to _____ the _____."

1 JOHN 4:17 "Love has been _____ among us in this: that we may have _____ in the day of _____; because as _____, so _____ we in _____ world."

When we allow Christ to reside in our lives and perfect His character in us, we have nothing to fear in the judgment. The apostle John writes that as Christ is, so also are we, in this present world. When we reflect the spotless character of Christ, judgment will be made in our favor.

7 What does the Bible reveal to be the standard of the judgment?

ECCLESIASTES 12:13-14 "Let us hear the _____ of the _____ matter: fear _____ and keep His _____, for this is man's _____ (14) For God will bring _____ into _____, including every _____ thing, whether _____ or _____."

The judgment will not be decided based on status, wealth, education, popularity, or fame. As the laws of the land judge every class and race equally, so also, God's law is the standard for everyone. He does not show partiality. All have sinned; therefore all are in need of a Savior.

8 How does the Bible reveal God's fairness?

GALATIANS 3:28 "There is neither _____ nor _____, there is neither _____ nor _____, there is neither _____ nor _____; for you are all _____ in Christ Jesus."

EZEKIEL 33:17 "Yet the children of your people say, 'The _____ of the LORD is _____ fair.' But it is _____ way which is not _____!"

Not only is God fair, He has made provision for all to be saved. 2 Peter 3:9 reveals, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." The judgment will be a blessing to all that repent and come to Christ.

9 What criteria must we meet to have confidence in the time of the judgment?

JOHN 3:18 "He who _____ in Him is not _____; but he who does _____ believe is condemned _____, because he has not _____ in the name of the only _____ of God."

Without a belief and total commitment to Jesus Christ, there is no escaping condemnation. The belief that John outlines here is not a mental assent to truth. It represents a committed life reflecting the fruit of the Spirit and character of Christ. We will not be judged based only on what we did, but on what we could have done.

10 Why is a verbal confession of Christ not sufficient to secure salvation?

JAMES 2:26 "For as the body _____ the spirit is _____, so _____ without _____ is dead also."

There is no such thing as "acceptable lip-service Christianity." In Matthew 15:8 Jesus condemns verbal Christianity. "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me." That is why the apostle James wrote, "So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty." James 2:12 (NKJV).

11 Will our words join our works in our judgment?

MATTHEW 12:36-37 "But I say to you that for every _____ men may _____, they will give _____ of it in the day of _____ (37) For by your _____ you will be _____, and by your _____ you will be _____."

The reason we will be judged by our words is they reveal something deeper than just what comes from our lips. Jesus said, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." Luke 6:45 (NKJV). When the heart is pure, the words will also be pure. The mouth is the revealing point of the heart.

12 Why must the judgment be finished before Christ returns?

REVELATION 22:12 "And behold, I am _____ quickly, and My _____ is _____ Me, to give to _____ one according to his _____."

Before there can be a reward according to one's work, there must be an investigation. A verdict must be reached to determine the reward. Since the reward will be given at Christ's return, the judgment must come first. Acts 17:31 reveals the process: "Because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead." A day for the inception of the judgment was given.

13 According to the Bible when did judgment begin?

DANIEL 8:14 “And he said to me, ‘For ___ thousand _____ hundred days; then the _____ shall be _____.’”

The “Cleansing of the Sanctuary” was a yearly service in which the sins of Israel were blotted out. It was called the “Day of Atonement.” At this event, the high priest went into the “Most Holy Place” to complete his atonement work. When he completed his work, the sins of those, for whom a sacrifice was provided, were blotted out. According to the calculation of prophetic timing, as in Ezekiel 4:6, one day equals one year. Therefore, the termination of the 2300 year period of Daniel 8:14, reveals that the final work of the “Cleansing of the Sanctuary” began in 1844. The ending of the judgment prepares the way for the return of Jesus.

14 Does the Bible confirm we are living in the judgment hour?

REVELATION 14:7 “Saying with a loud voice, ‘Fear God and give glory to Him, for the _____ of His _____ has _____; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.’”

Revelation reveals that we are living in the judgment hour. It also reveals that in this time of judgment there is a call to return to the worship of the Creator. Worship that does not acknowledge the Creator is not acceptable.

15 Why is it imperative to have Jesus as Judge and Attorney?

1 JOHN 1:7 “But if we _____ in the _____ as He is in the light, we have _____ with one another, and the _____ of Jesus Christ His Son _____ us from _____.”

Without the pardoning grace of Jesus, sin cannot be forgiven. Without the blood of Jesus, sin cannot be cleansed. Those that have rejected Jesus will stand guilty in the judgment.

16 What happens if your name is not in the Book of Life?

REVELATION 20:15 “And _____ not found _____ in the Book of _____ was _____ into the _____ of _____.”

Matthew 25:41 says the lake of fire is prepared for the devil and his angels. God does not delight in destruction yet He does not force our will to save us.

17 Has ample provision been made to save everyone?

1 JOHN 2:2 “And _____ is the _____ for our _____, and not for ours _____ but also for the _____.”

ISAIAH 45:22 “Look to _____, and be _____, all you _____ of the _____! For I am _____, and there is no _____.”

JOHN 3:17 “For God did not send His Son into the world to _____ the world, but that the _____ through Him might be _____.”

Ample provision has been made for the salvation of all who come to Jesus. The judgment is not a fearful event to those that accept the saving grace of Jesus. His mission is salvation.

18 What has God established as true worship to the Creator?

EXODUS 20:8 “_____ the _____ day, to keep it _____.”

EXODUS 20:11 “For in six days the LORD _____ the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and _____ the _____ day. Therefore the LORD _____ the _____ day and hallowed it.”

Many are unaware that the Sabbath has been established as a sign of true worship to Jesus Christ, our Judge and Advocate. We cannot honor Him and choose to forget His admonition to remember. Jesus describes true worship. He said, “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” John 4:23-24 (NKJV). Jesus accepts only true worship.

19 Why does judgment begin at the house of God?

1 PETER 4:17 “For the time has come for _____ to _____ at the _____ of _____; and if it _____ with us _____, what will be the _____ of those who do not _____ the _____ of God?”

The judgment begins with those that declare allegiance to Christ. There would be no need to examine the lives of those that have not accepted Him as their Savior. The works of those that do not accept Christ reveal that they are already condemned.

20 What promise does Jesus make to those who accept His cleansing blood?

REVELATION 3:5 “He who _____ shall be clothed in _____ garments, and I will not _____ out his name from the Book of _____; but I will _____ his _____ before My Father and before His angels.”

Christ’s righteousness is the only garment that can cover our unworthiness. It is the means for our victory. We don’t gain the victory over sin by our efforts, we accept the victory won by Christ.

21 How does the apostle Paul describe the Christian victory?

1 CORINTHIANS 15:57 “But thanks be to _____, who _____ us the _____ through our _____ Jesus Christ.”

Christ has accomplished our victory over sin. Our assurance is, “He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.” 1 John 5:12 (NKJV). Through Jesus we are declared innocent. We are given the responsibility to live holy lives. The judgment will determine whether our lives reflect our profession. Through Christ’s power we can.



The Judgment Hour

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How to have Confidence in the Judgment

The good news is, Jesus is coming again! The sobering news is, prior to His return there will be a judgment to decide the eternal fate of humanity one by one. Everyone that has ever lived will face the judgment. Every case will be decided in favor of life or death. Every deed we have done, every word we have spoken, every action we have taken are tested in the judgment. Our thoughts, our actions, and our deeds are now being recorded in the books of heaven. Every secret thing we have ever done will be revealed and brought to light. None will escape the judgment.

With unavoidable certainty before us, there are only two choices that we can make. We can choose to represent ourselves or we can choose Jesus as our Judge and our Advocate.

In the judgment, those that have Jesus as their Savior will find pardon, peace, and eternal forgiveness. The great love of God will be revealed in behalf of those that have accepted His Son as their Savior. Every provision has been made for us to face the judgment without fear.

Those that are clothed in the righteousness of Jesus will have their sins blotted out in the judgment. According to Revelation chapter 14, we are living in the time of the judgment. I pray that as you study this outline you make the choice to have Jesus as your Judge and Advocate. When you receive Him into your life you will find confidence to face the judgment and have peace as you prepare for His glorious return.