

Introduction

- ➔ The suggestion was made last week to “go on and tell us *what happens next*—about **Judgment Day**.”
 - So today we will take a few minutes to look at what the Bible says about that *ultimate* “**great and terrible day of Jehovah**” (cf. Joel 2:31; Mal. 4:5)—“**the last day**” (Jn. 6:39,40,44,54; 11:24; 12:48).

Discussion

I. THE JUDGMENT IS **SURE**.

- ➔ *A Day of Reckoning is coming.*
- A. ACTS 17:30,31—“...**he has appointed a day on which he will judge the world** in righteousness...”
- B. PSA. 96:13—“Jehovah...comes...to judge the earth: **He will judge the world** in His righteousness...”
- C. MATT. 10:15 (cf. 11:22,24; 12:36)—“...more tolerable **on the day of judgment** for Sodom and Gomorrah...”
- D. 2 PET. 2:9—“...the Lord knows how...to keep the unrighteous...**until the day of judgment**...”
- E. 1 JOHN 4:17—“...love is made perfect with us, that we may have boldness **in the day of judgment**...”

II. THE JUDGMENT WILL BE **UNIVERSAL**.

- ➔ *Everyone who has Ever Lived will be There.*
- A. 2 COR. 5:10—“For we must **ALL** be made manifest before the judgment-seat of Christ...”
- B. ROM. 14:10—“...for we shall **ALL** stand before the judgment-seat of God... **each one of us**...”
- C. 2 TIM. 4:1—“...Christ Jesus...shall judge **the living and the dead**...”
- D. REV. 20:12—“And I saw...**the great and the small**...standing before the throne... and [they] were **judged**.”

III. THE JUDGMENT WILL BE AN **ACCOUNTING**. [*Men will Answer for What They Did While on Earth.*]

- ➔ *Men will Answer for What They Did While on the Earth.*
- A. ECC. 12:14—“...For **God will bring every work into judgment**...”
- B. ROM. 2:5,6—“He will render to **each one according to his works**...”
- C. 2 COR. 5:10—“For we must all...**receive what is due for what we have done in the body**...”
- D. MATT. 12:36,37—“...**on the day of judgment people will give account for every idle word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.**”
- E. REV. 22:12—“Behold, I come quickly; ...**to render to each man according as his work is.**”

IV. THE JUDGMENT WILL BE ACCORDING TO A **SET STANDARD**.

- ➔ *The Standard by which We will All be Judged has Already Been Set by God.*
- A. WHAT THE STANDARD WILL **NOT** BE:
 1. **Sincerity**/Intentions (cf. Acts 7:58; 8:1,3; 9:1; 23:1; et al.)
 2. **Feelings**/Opinions
 3. Ancestral/**Familial Religious Beliefs**
 4. Human/Human Compare/Contrast (i.e., how one measures up compared to others)
 5. **Societal “Norms”**
 6. Corrupted Bible “Translations”
- B. WHAT THE STANDARD **WILL** BE: **the word of God** (John 12:48).

V. **THE JUDGMENT WILL INCLUDE MANY SURPRISES.**

A. MATT. 7:22,23—“**MANY** will say unto Me *in that day*, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not...?’”

1. “Lord, Lord, did we not **go to church every Sunday?**”
2. “Lord, Lord, did we not **do good things for others?**”
3. “Lord, Lord, did we not **pray to You every day?**”
4. “Lord, Lord, did we not **tell others about You?**”
5. “And then I shall say to them, ‘I **never knew you: DEPART FROM ME**, you workers of *iniquity*.’” (23).

B. NOTE: While we said last week that everyone will know the moment he dies where he will spend eternity, the point of what Jesus is saying here is not about *when* the surprise will actually take place, but the very fact that the surprise *will* take place.

1. In other words, regardless of whether they realize it the moment they die, or on the day of Judgment, the point is that **they will not be going where they wanted to go, and thought they were going!**
2. In reality, both will happen:
 - a) The surprise of those who die *before* the Lord’s return will occur the second they die (Lk. 16:22,23);
 - b) The surprise of those who are *still alive* when the Lord returns will occur on the day of judgment when He puts them on His left hand with the goats (Mt. 7:21-23; cp. 25:31-33,46).

Conclusion: The Whole Picture

➔ 1 THESS. 4:13ff; MATT. 25:31-46

- The trumpet of God and the voice of the archangel will sound.
- The Son of Man shall come in His glory.
- The angels and faithful dead will be with Him.
- The Lord will sit on the throne of His glory.
- **Every human being that has ever lived will stand before Him, face-to-face.**
- The angels will **separate the sheep from the goats** (righteous from unrighteous).
- Sheep will be set at His right hand; the goats at His left.
 - ▶ **All on His right escorted to heaven;**
 - ▶ **All on His left cast into hell.**

➔ THE GOOD NEWS

- ROM. 8:1— “There is therefore now **NO CONDEMNATION** for those who are **IN CHRIST JESUS.**”
 - ▶ Those who are *in Christ*—by obeying the gospel plan of salvation:
 - Believing the gospel of Jesus (Mk. 16:16);
 - Repenting of their sins (Lk. 13:3,5);
 - Confessing Jesus as Lord (Rom. 10:10);
 - Being immersed in water, ***into Christ, unto remission of sins*** (Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:3ff);
 - ▶ And who *remain in Christ* by faithfulness to Him (2 Cor. 5:14,15; Heb. 5:8,9; Rev. 2:10), will *through Him* be **saved from the wrath of God** on the day of judgment (Rom. 5:9; cf. Lk. 3:7)!