



What Really Happens on Judgment Day?

<u>Romans 2:5</u>: (NASB) But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.

It is kind of funny how there is such a movement against the Bible and Biblical principles these days, yet things like "Armageddon" and "Judgment Day," which have their basis in Scripture, are common themes in our society. Of course, society dramatizes these things way beyond the reality of Scripture so what we perceive is generally not what will happen. So, Judgment Day...it is coming! What does that mean? When will it happen? Who will be judged?

The difficulty in discussing "The Day of Judgment" is in all of the erroneous and well-traveled ideas swimming around about how it works. We want to go back to what the Bible says about it.

(1) Polar shift, Second Coming of Jesus, Polar Shift/The Global Earthquake

• On the day which Jesus returns, there will be a polar reversal. Isaiah 24:20 says, "The earth will crack and shatter and split open. The earth itself will stagger like a drunk, sway like a hut in a storm. The world is weighed down by its sins. It will collapse and never rise again." Revelation 6:12 says, "There was a violent earthquake and the sun became black like coarse black cloth and the moon turned completely red like blood. The stars fell down to the earth like ripe figs falling from the tree when a strong wind shakes it. The sky disappeared like the scroll being rolled up and every mountain and island was moved from its place." The polar flip will make the stars race across the sky, and the vacuum created from the reeling of the earth will pull the atmosphere along the ground trying to catch up. Creating what is known as a roll cloud which will pull with it the dust and ash created from the global earthquake.

Part of decoding the Bible is determining what language is symbolic vs. literal. Please see our programs from November 9 and December 14, 2014 called, "Can We Know the Mind of God? (Parts I and II)" which included how to determine the use of symbolic language in the Bible.

To deal with these, let's simply go to the Bible and use Jesus' own words as a basis:

Who? What? Where? When? Why? How? • WHEN - does the Day of Judgment actually take place?

Jesus tells us...

<u>John 5:28-29</u>: (ASV) ²⁸Marvel not at this: for the hour cometh, in which all that are in the tombs shall hear his voice, ²⁹and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment.

So, we know there will be a resurrection and then a judgment. To figure out when this happens, we need to look at several of the parables of Jesus.



The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats describes the *final* phase of Judgment Day. Do we know when this occurs? There are two other parables spoken directly before the Parable of the Sheep and Goats that should help give us clues.

The first parable:

<u>Matthew 25:1-2</u>: (NASB) ¹Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent.

This story is directed to Jesus' true followers being prepared for the coming of the bridegroom - the return of Jesus. You have to have the light of the Gospel shining in front of you to see where you are going and to wait through the dark night.

<u>Psalms 119:105</u>: (NIV) Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.



Jesus then goes directly into a second parable:

<u>Matthew 25:14-15</u>: (NASB) ¹⁴For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey.



This story builds upon the foundation of the last one - not only must true Christians watch and wait in a prepared state, but they must work hard at the opportunities in the work of the Gospel that they are given while waiting.

We watch for opportunities and we watch for needs.

Please see our programs from January 19 and February 2, 2014 called, *"Is Jesus Really Returning? (Parts I and II)"* which discusses in detail the object and manner of Jesus' return.

Christian Questions Rewind

Observations about these two parables:

• They are directed at true Christians only,



- The preparation and the work of the Gospel are at stake,
- Jesus is returning to judge each effort, and
- There is a potential for great loss.



The next parable Jesus gives is about the sheep and goats:

<u>Matthew 25:31-32</u>: (NASB) ³¹But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him; and he will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Differences from the first two parables in this chapter:

- When the Son of Man comes in his glory....The previous parables were in *preparation* for (before) Jesus' return, but this one is as a *result* of his return. Timing is important.
- His *angels* are the true Church they are with him. Those followers were being prepared in the previous two parables so that they can do this job in the third parable. They are with him in this judgment process.
- *All the nations* are involved. The time period is during the end of the Day of Judgment.

So, this is a whole different story, applied in a whole different way, applied in a whole different time. To get the main lesson, we have to know how it all fits together.



Some people actually get a pass from Judgment Day is that like a "get out of jail free" card?

So, we know that "The Day of Judgment" is after the resurrection, which is after Jesus returns. We know that <u>Matthew 24</u> was about the second *presence* (not second coming) of Jesus. The word translated coming in our King James Version Bibles actually means *presence*.

<u>Matthew 24:3</u>: (KJV) And as he sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming <3952>, and of the end of the world?

Coming: Strongs #3952 parousia (par-oo-see'-ah); from the present participle of 3918; a being near; presence, arrival, advent

From this word: Strongs #3918 pareimi (par'-i-mee); to be near, i.e. at hand



Therefore all of the trouble described in <u>Matthew 24</u> - described as *the great time of trouble* that brings Armageddon - must happen before the resurrection and "Judgment Day." Understanding this helps us to see that there is a difference between the anger of God that pulls down the governments and religions of this world (alluded to by <u>Matthew 24</u>) and the judgment of God for individuals that is a separating work (to be discussed later).

The day of wrath upon the nations of the world is different than the day of individual judgment.

Judgment begins, Judgment Day, themercifulservant.com (a Muslim perspective)

• Brothers and sisters, again imagine. You know when you walk into a court, there's the judge. There is the sheriff or whoever has the handcuffs on the side standing there. (Speaks in Arabic) There the scale will be put and the keepers of hellfire with chains standing here and all mankind is standing?



• WHO - does the Day of Judgment actually affect?

Jesus tells us...

<u>John 5:28-29</u>: (ASV) ²⁸Marvel not at this: for the hour cometh, in which all that are in the tombs shall hear his voice, ²⁹and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment.

Humanity is broken into two categories. Jesus tells us there are some who get a pass from Judgment Day. (Do they have any judgment at all?)

What role does Jesus play in each of the two categories represented above?

Jesus and the "godly" - they "that have done good:"

<u>1 John 2:1-2</u>: (ASV) ¹My little children, these things write I unto you that ye may not sin. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate <3875> with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: ²and he is the propitiation <2434> for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.

Advocate: Strongs #3875 parakletos (par-ak'-lay-tos); an intercessor, consoler: One who pleads another's cause before a judge, a pleader, counsel for defense, legal assistant, an advocate

Propitiation: Strongs #2434 ilamov hilasmos 1) an appeasing, propitiating 2) the means of appeasing, a propitiation

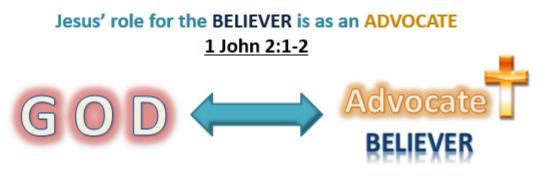
So the godly - the true followers of Christ - are not judged in that day as they have already been tested! During this life, they laid their lives down with Jesus by their side, "advocating for" and covering them.

Let's say we do something wrong. We go to the Father in prayer and say, "Please forgive me, and I ask this through Jesus Christ." Jesus approaches God on our behalf, on our side.

These are resurrected in heaven; Jesus having intervened on their behalf. They already passed their test - they were judged early before the rest of the world. They proved faithful through this life.



This believer/advocate relationship goes beyond just being a nice person and walking old ladies across the street! It is about being a true "footstep follower" of Jesus, and those footsteps lead to a life of sacrifice.



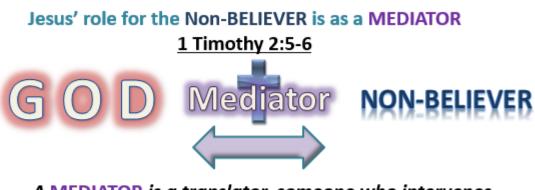
An ADVOCATE is someone who sits with you on your side, one who pleads another's cause before a judge.

There is a lot of evil, darkness and sin in this world. The majority of humanity has not proven themselves faithful to a godly standard, so it is good they are NOT tested right now.

Jesus and the "ungodly" - "they that have done evil:"

<u>1 Timothy 2:1-6</u>: (ASV) ¹I exhort therefore... that supplications, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings, be made for all men... ³This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; ⁴who would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, one mediator <3316> also between God and men, himself man, Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself a ransom <487> for all; the testimony to be borne in its own times.

Mediator: Strongs #3316 1) one who intervenes between two, either in order to make or restore peace and friendship, or form a compact or for ratifying a covenant 2) a medium of communication, arbitrator.



A MEDIATOR is a translator, someone who intervenes between two sides at odds to bring them together.

God and mankind are definitely at odds right now!



<u>Hebrews 12:24</u>: (KJV) And to Jesus the mediator <3316> of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

What is this *New Covenant*? Time does not allow much detail in this program, but in the Old Testament, the Law Covenant was given to Israel. Those who are following after Jesus are under a covenant of Grace, because as imperfect humans, we cannot live up to the perfect standard of a life of sacrifice required. We are all faulty and sinful. The New Covenant is a covenant God again makes with Israel in this future Day of Judgment for the purpose of blessing both Israel and all of mankind. It is different than the original Law Covenant.

Who gets judged in the Day of Judgment? The world of mankind. (The true followers of Jesus have already been proven.)

A *mediator* sits between two opposing parties - this assumes both parties have grounds for mediation, meaning "the jury is still out" and the only reason for this mediation is the *ransom* price that Jesus paid:

Ransom: Strongs #487 antilutron; what is given in exchange for another as the price of his redemption, ransom



The Day of Judgment is not a final stamp of GUILTY or NOT GUILTY! It is a period of time with the *process* of mediation, not just a single moment. So, the unbelievers of the world have Jesus mediate for them to bring them back to God. His purchase of the whole race of Adam provides them with resurrection - but what happens next?

Does God's Judgment Day judgment through Jesus pound unbelievers into submission or oblivion?



• HOW - does the Day of Judgment work? Is it a mass one-time sentencing?

Jesus tells us...

John 5:28-29: (ASV) ²⁸Marvel not at this: for **the hour cometh**, in which all that are in the tombs shall hear his voice, ²⁹and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment.

Does that mean all judgment is just a single hour...even less than one day?

<u>Matthew 12:36</u>: (KJV) But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day <2250> of judgment.



Now, let's define a few of the key words in these last texts:

Day: Strongs #2250 hemera (hay-mer'-ah); ...day, i.e. (literally) the time space between dawn and dark, or the whole 24 hours; figuratively, a period (always defined more or less clearly by the context)

"Day" can be used as a 24-hour literal day or a period of time.

Some uses of the word day that obviously don't mean a 24-hour literal day: <u>Matthew 23:30</u> (KJV) And say, If we had been in the days <2250> of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.

<u>Acts 8:1</u>: (KJV) And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time <2250> there was a great persecution against the church, which was at Jerusalem...

So, the "Day" of Judgment is not a day - it is a period of time when something is happening. We will review further to verify this.

(I)) Books in hand, Judgment Day, themercifulservant.com

• The judgment will start. Every individual, every person, you, me, every one of us will be called upon to be judged and at that moment, Brothers and Sisters, the sky just becomes dark with books flying everywhere. Just books fly everywhere at that moment and everyone is about to get their book. And you know that if you get your book with your right hand, you're pretty safe. But if you get it with your left hand, you're not. So, some people try to hide their left hand behind their back, as if there is no other option except my right hand and the verse says people will take their books with their right hand and other people will take the books behind their back. It will fly right into their left hand.

The Muslim perspective is a very literal moment where each man has a book of their own life that miraculously flies to you. The book knows which hand to find. We believe there are many erroneous perspectives on what the Day of Judgment is and what it is for.

Judgment: Strongs #2920 krisis (kree'-sis); decision (subjectively or objectively, for or against); by extension, a tribunal; by implication, justice (especially, divine law) Our English word "crisis" comes from this word.
Lexicon: 1) a separating, sundering, separation 1a) a trial, contest 2) selection 3) judgment

Judgment can mean the pronouncement of "guilty/not guilty," but it can also mean the process by which you are gathering up evidence, like an actual trial. During that process there will be an intense learning experience and education. Mankind will not just be judged on their past but also how they accept it and make retribution.



A caller from Connecticut suggests: The Christian Questions program is a beacon of light in a dark world. <u>Psalms 119:105</u>: (KJV) Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. In these days of unthinkable atrocities, I believe demons are involved. We are tempted to be like the Apostles who begged Jesus to bring down fire from heaven! Our God has a better method. <u>Romans 12:19</u>: (KJV) ...vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.



God IS doing something. He is allowing the process to come to its full fruition, but the pieces are in place to pull down the false governments and false religions of the world. That all happens before the Day of Judgment.

Mankind has really gotten so far away from God.

Why do we think that this "Day of Judgment" is a process?

These next two Scriptures really reveal the process and objective! <u>Isaiah 26:9</u>: (KJV) With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

Unlearning unrighteousness and learning righteousness takes time.

<u>2 Peter 3:9</u>: (KJV) The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

If God has a desire for all to come to repentance, He could do that by brainwashing people, but that means they did not really come to Him of their own free will. The "how" of the Day of Judgment will be a learning process. It is not a dark, evil, horrific situation so many people portray it as. It is full of hope and opportunity for the people of this world to be able to find their way to God. Jesus died as a ransom, enabling all to be resurrected. People are raised so they can *begin the process* of being able to stand before God. Jesus mediates for them so they can learn righteousness and have a legitimate opportunity and be judged based on their true character.

So, if we apply the definitions we just reviewed, one of our texts from above would read something like this:

<u>Matthew 12:36</u>: (KJV) But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day (period) of judgment (separation or trial).

So far we have seen the WHEN, WHO and the HOW of Judgment Day:

- WHEN? After the return of Jesus, the gathering of his chosen, the time of trouble and Armageddon
- WHO? All who have ever lived except for those who have been faithful to a higher calling
- HOW? Judgment will be over a period of time for each; a time when each can choose righteousness (after getting a full opportunity for learning)



Now let's continue:

• WHAT - exactly will be judged on Judgment Day?



(1) The wrath of the Lamb, The End of the World, Judgment Day, Paul Washer

• Can God be loving and not move against wickedness? No. Can God be good and be apathetic towards evil? Absolutely not. There is the wrath of God and it is the result of Him being righteous and holy and even loving and good. God will judge men. He will. We must warn men. We must tell men that God all day long extends out His hand to a disobedient, obstinate people but at the same time the wrath of God comes upon the world because God is a righteous, holy God. Have you not read the book of Revelation? This is not just Old Testament teaching. That the wrath of God will come in such a way that men will cry out, that the great captains and leaders of this world will cry out as the rocks fall upon them to hide them from the wrath of the Lamb.

We believe he is taking Scriptures that apply to "the great time of trouble" and applying them to the individual judgment of mankind. But those are two different things! The Scriptures separate them, so we should separate them.

What will be judged? The deeds of humanity:

<u>Romans 2:5-10</u>: (NASB) ⁵But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, ⁶who will render to each person according to his deeds: ⁷to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; (This is, in a sense a revelation. It will be revealed who were already found faithful in following Jesus.) ⁸but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation. ⁹There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, ¹⁰but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

There absolutely is wrath and indignation - God is not pleased with how far man has degraded himself. But He provides a way to make it right - a way to get back into harmony with Him.

What will be judged? The thoughts and reactions of humanity:

<u>Matthew 11:20-24</u>: (NASB) ²⁰Then he began to denounce the cities in which most of his miracles were done, because they did not repent. (Jesus was physically there and he received no response.) ²¹Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles had occurred in Tyre and Sidon, which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²²Nevertheless I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the Day of Judgment than for you.

(Source: Biblical Commentary by Matthew Poole) Tyre and Sidon were habitations of heathens, their country joined to Galilee. They were places of great traffic, inhabited with Canaanitish idolaters, and exceedingly wicked; threatened by the prophet Isaiah, #Isa 23:1-18, and by the prophet Ezekiel, #Eze 26:1-28:26, and by Amos, #Am 1:9,10; a people odious to the Jews upon many accounts.

²³And you, Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You will descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom, which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day. ²⁴Nevertheless I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the Day of Judgment, than for you.

Sodom was a city specifically destroyed because of its inherent evil. Yet here we have Jesus telling us they will have an easier time in the Day of Judgment. The degree or extent of sin each person was responsible for will be reflected in the Day of Judgment. It will be easier for those who were not as degraded in sin and led a good life.



What if someone led a hideous life because they were abused and neglected as a child? Those deeds will be judged as will their heart. Does their past justify what they did? No, but it puts those acts in context and upon being resurrected, they will have the opportunity to act in a godly way to show they can rise above those things.

<u>Matthew 10:26</u>: (NIV) So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known.

There will be accountability for every word and all acts and deeds will be revealed and judged. This judgment will include your heart, your experiences and where you came from.

What will be judged? The intentions and words of humanity:

<u>Matthew 12:33-37</u>: (NASB) ³³Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit. ³⁴You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. ³⁵The good man brings out of his good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what is evil. ³⁶But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the Day of Judgment. ³⁷For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

All of these things are not judged as in "this is the final decision." Mankind is judged as in "this is who you have been. Now let's look at who you can be." That is why there is a Mediator helping the two sides reconcile. It is revealed what you did, why you did it and then determine how to make it right and how to ultimately be made right in God's eyes. This is personal reconciliation with God. It is a long, difficult, PROMISING process.

So, if humankind has done such a bad job of life, why does God even give them a chance?

• WHY - is mankind dealt with in this manner on Judgment Day?



The whole point of the ransom price was to SAVE humanity. But, Jesus can only bring them so far - they - humanity by virtue of their free moral choice must do their part. Giving people the opportunity to live again still does not transform their mind and heart for them. God built into humanity the ability to choose and He honors that free will.

<u>1 Timothy 2:3-6</u>: (NRSV) ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge <1922> of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all --this was attested at the right time.

Knowledge: Strongs #1922 epignosis; recognition, i.e. (by implication) full discernment, acknowledgement

Lexicon: precise and correct knowledge

So, the world is saved (ransomed) first and THEN given the opportunity for full discernment! People will fully understand what their life meant before and what their choices and actions meant.



They will then fully understand what they are *supposed* to do and will have the choice. A lot of the wrath and sorrow will come from realizing all of the pain each one caused. They will then make amends and be able to move forward.

This full discernment will not only be for their new experiences, but their past as well!

<u>1 Peter 2:9-12</u>: (NRSV) ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of Him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ¹¹Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹²Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

Notice in the last Scripture, it describes those who are evildoers now and how they end up glorifying God *later*.

THE DAY OF JUDGMENT IS WITHOUT SATAN'S INFLUENCE! Satan will be bound during this time, allowing mankind the ability to finally learn righteousness without all of the negative and evil influences. They will learn and develop in a godly environment. The sin we inherited from Adam is lifted; humanity can now truly observe the real story of life.

Humankind needs the restraints of law, order and a higher source of guidance:

<u>2 Peter 2:9</u>: (KJV) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be **punished** <2849>:

Punished: Strongs #2849 kolazw kolazo kol-ad'-zo from kolos (dwarf)
1) to lop or prune, as trees and wings 2) to curb, check, restrain
3) to chastise, correct, punishment 4) to cause to be punished

How do you get a fruit tree to produce more fruit? You prune it to cut away what does not belong. That is what the Day of Judgment is for! Humanity, no matter what state they are in, will be raised and revealed for who or what they are. They will then have to have what does not belong in their characters "cut back" or "pruned" so they can be complete.

God gave Adam a conscience to know right from wrong, but our consciences now are so out of whack. In the kingdom, consciences will learn how to be attuned to righteousness. Mankind was born in sin through Adam, so of course we lived a life of sin! But during that life of sin, what kind of choices did we make? Were they righteous, good choices or were they dark and evil choices? Most of us have both.

(i) Open the book, Judgment Day, themercifulservant.com

• Brothers and Sisters, I want you to take a moment and open your book. Take a moment, close your eyes. This is the report card you have been waiting for. Open it. Open it. Open your book of deeds right now. Look at it. Flip the pages. Every page, every word, every atom of an action that you did is in there.



Judgment will be based fully upon one's own actions with the past considered but also actions after being resurrected:

Jeremiah 31:27-30: (NASB) ²⁷Behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and with the seed of beast. ²⁸As I have watched over them to pluck up, to break down, to overthrow, to destroy and to bring disaster, (past actions) so I will watch over them to build and to plant, (actions during this Day of Judgment period) declares the LORD. ²⁹In those days they will not say again, the fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge. ³⁰But everyone will die for his own iniquity; each man who eats the sour grapes, his teeth will be set on edge.

Everyone will be able to make their own decisions with full understanding of the consequences of the choices made in the past, present and future.

How does this all end up?

• WHERE - does this marvelous judgment take place and to what end?



EARTH!!!

<u>Acts 17:30-31</u>: (NASB) ³⁰Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, ³¹because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising him from the dead.

Isaiah 42:1-4: (ASV) ¹Behold, my servant, whom I uphold; my chosen, in whom my soul delighteth: I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. ²He will not cry, nor lift up his voice, nor cause it to be heard in the street. ³A bruised reed will he not break, and a dimly burning wick will he not quench: he will bring forth justice in truth. ⁴He will not fail nor be discouraged, till he has set justice in the earth; and the isles shall wait for his law.

To what end? It all comes down to what you do, driven by what your heart and mind dictate!

(I))Heaven or hell, The Great White Throne of Judgment, A Chick Publications Production

• The dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books according to their works. Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the Day of Judgment. When it is over God will ask an angel to open the Book of Life to see if your name appears. The angel will look and say, "That name does not appear, Lord," and God will say, "Depart from me. Ye cursed into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

The audio clip quoted a portion of the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats, so let's look more closely.

<u>Matthew 25:41-45</u>: (NASB) ⁴¹Then he will also say to those on his left, depart from me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry, and you gave me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me nothing to drink; ⁴³I was a stranger, and you did not invite me in; naked, and you did not clothe me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit me. ⁴⁴Then they themselves also will answer, Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of you? ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.



Please see our program, "Are You a Sheep or a Goat?" from March 5, 2013 for more specific information on this Parable.

Remember, the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats takes place *after* the great time of trouble and after Armageddon. It is the FINAL portion of the Day of Judgment. It is NOT the judgment based on just this current lifetime.

At the end of this long Day of Judgment, everyone will have to give a final accounting. If they choose righteousness, they live. If they choose unrighteousness, they are destroyed (not eternally tortured). You get to choose whether or not you want to be a part of eternity.

Ultimately, the actions that provoke judgment are all tied to the following statement from Jesus. This text represents the attitude of the "sheep" in the parable:

<u>Mark 12:28-31</u>:(NASB) ²⁸One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that he had answered them well, asked him, what commandment is the foremost of all? ²⁹Jesus answered, the foremost is, Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; ³⁰and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. ³¹The second is this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

There is nothing about self-sacrifice described here. The Old Testament Law was not about following the footsteps of Jesus, but instead it gave a guideline for living life on earth. The New Covenant in the Day of Judgment replaces the old Law Covenant. The key to physical life eternal on earth will be the same: *Love your Lord your God will all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.* That is what the Day of Judgment will ultimately produce - those who truly love God because they see the love of God.

Judgment Day is a period of time when mankind will go through the resurrection then a rehabilitation process to get back into harmony with God. Jesus as the mediator together with his true followers will help a sin-sick world come back to righteousness. Humankind was given earth as a home. God gave the opportunity for a few to follow after Jesus and receive a heavenly reward. The rest of the world is given the opportunity to live on earth in a perfect world where they will become perfect human beings with the ability to look back on the experience of evil and darkness and see it was a learning process.

The Day of Judgment involves both rehabilitation and opportunity. It is a process, not a single event. It gives mankind the opportunity to live the way they were meant to, realizing God loved us before we ever even knew Him.

So, what really happens on Judgment Day? For Jonathan and Rick (and Kathy!) and Christian Questions... Think about it...!

> And now <u>even more</u> to think about... only in the Full Edition of CQ Rewind!



The Day of Judgment as a tool to fulfill God's promise:

<u>Galatians 3:19-22</u>: (NASB) ¹⁹Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made. ²⁰Now a mediator is not for one party only; whereas God is only one. ²¹Is the Law then contrary to the promises of God? May it never be! For if a law had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have been based on law. ²²But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Everyone is trapped under sin, so the promise can be given to believers - what promise? Does this promise exclude everyone else?

<u>Galatians 3:29</u>: (NASB) And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

<u>Genesis 22:17-18</u>: (NASB) ¹⁷indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. ¹⁸In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.

So, the promise includes everyone!

Does this hold true with the Day of Judgment?

<u>Romans 2:3-10</u>: (NASB) ³But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance? ⁵But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, ⁶who will render to each person according to his deeds: ⁷to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; ⁸but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation. ⁹There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek.

Fallen angels will also be judged in that day:

<u>Ephesians 6:12</u>: (ASV) ¹²For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

<u>1 Peter 3:18-20</u>: (ASV) ¹⁸Because Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God; being put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; ¹⁹in which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison, ²⁰that aforetime were disobedient, when the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water:

<u>2 Peter 2:4</u>: (KJV) For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment <2920>;

<u>Jude 1:6</u>: (KJV) And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment <2920> of the great day.