

THE 2ND COMING OF CHRIST IS A DAY OF JUDGMENT!

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GOD HAS APPOINTED A DAY OF JUDGMENT FOR THE WORLD: -

Acts 17:30 & 31: - "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: **Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by [that] man whom he hath ordained; [whereof] he hath given assurance unto all [men], in that he hath raised him from the dead.**"

The man who God has appointed to judge the world in the Day of Judgment is the Lord Jesus Christ. He has been appointed to judge the living and the dead, and it is to Christ that we must give account of our lives.

Acts 10:38-42: - "How God anointed **Jesus of Nazareth** with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day, and showed him openly; Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, [even] to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead. **And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God [to be] the Judge of quick and dead.**"

1 Peter 4:5: - "**Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.**"

The apostle Paul has stated that we are **all** to appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ to receive our eternal reward according to our works, whether they are good or bad.

2 Corinthians 5:10: - "**For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things [done] in [his] body, according to that he hath done, whether [it be] good or bad.**"

The coming Day of Judgment formed a part of the apostle Paul's faith in Christ. His reasoning of his faith in Christ made the Roman governor Felix tremble in anticipation of the future Judgment.

Acts 24:24 & 25: - "And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for **Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.**"

Death is no escape from this heaven ordained Judgment.

Hebrews 9:27: - "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, **but after this the judgment.**"

CHRIST'S ROLE IN THE JUDGMENT: -

God the Father has given all Judgment into the hands of his Son; and the role Christ fulfils in the Judgment is to **execute** or to **carry out the eternal rewards determined in the Judgment**. And he does this through raising the dead in the two Resurrections; the first one is unto eternal life; and the second one is unto condemnation.

John 5:22 & 27-29: - "For **the Father** judgeth no man, **but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: ... And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.**"

NB: - The 1st Resurrection – those who have done good = Resurrection unto Life.

The 2nd Resurrection – those who have done evil = Resurrection unto Condemnation.

AT HIS 2ND COMING CHRIST SHALL REWARD EVERYBODY ACCORDING TO HIS OR HER WORKS: -

Matthew 16:27: - "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; **and then he shall reward every man according to his works.**"

Revelation 22:12: - "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward [is] with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."

WHEN CHRIST COMES AGAIN HE WILL EXECUTE THE JUDGMENT UPON THE LIVING AND THE DEAD: -

The Psalmist prophesied of the glorious 2nd Coming of Christ, when he shall come as the Judge.

Psalms 50:3-6: - "**Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.** He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, **that he may judge his people.** Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice. And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: **for God [is] judge himself.** Selah."

Psalms 96:12 & 13: - "Let the field be joyful, and all that [is] therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before **the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.**"

The New Testament Scriptures record the same truth concerning the 2nd Coming of Christ.

2 Timothy 4:1: - "I charge [thee] therefore before God, and **the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom.**"

Revelation 19:11-16: - "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called **Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.** His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: **and his name is called The Word of God.** And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. **And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.** And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.**"

THE 2ND COMING OF JESUS IS A DAY OF WRATH AND VENGEANCE FOR THE UNGODLY AND DISOBEDIENT: -

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10: - "And to you who are troubled rest with us, **when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:** Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."

Jude 14 & 15: - "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, **Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all,** and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard [speeches] which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

Revelation 6:14-17: - "And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; **And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?**"

THE WORLD SHALL NOT WELCOME THE 2ND COMING OF CHRIST: -

Matthew 24:30 & 31: - "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: **and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.** And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

Revelation 1:7: - "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they [also] which pierced him: **and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.** Even so, Amen."

JUDGMENT MUST COMMENCE WITH THE HOUSE OF GOD: -

The apostle Peter states a truth that is little understood or recognized among professed Christians, and that is, that the Judgment is to commence with the house of God. He then asks a sobering question, what shall be the end or the fate of those who do not obey the gospel of God? In VS. 18 he makes a rather amazing statement, teaching us that the righteous shall **scarcely** be saved. In other words, the righteous shall be saved by **“the skin of their teeth”** so to speak. What is amazing about this statement from the inspired apostle Peter is the fact that it flies in the face of what one generally hears proclaimed from the pulpits of Christendom today, that salvation for the righteous **“is a sure thing”**.

1 Peter 4:17 & 18: - “For the time [is come] **that judgment must begin at the house of God:** and if [it] first [begin] at us, what shall the end [be] of them that obey not the gospel of God? **And if the righteous scarcely be saved,** where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

What is the time setting of 1 Peter 4 in which these sobering statements are made? The end of all things is near at hand. In other words, the end of the world is imminent.

1 Peter 4:7: - **“But the end of all things is at hand:** be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.”

Let us never forget that the apostle Paul taught that all believers in Christ shall stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ to give an account of their lives.

Romans 14:10-12: - “But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? **for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.** For it is written, [As] I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. **So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.**”

Jesus taught that those saints who shall have a part in the resurrection of the just and in the coming new world shall have been **accounted worthy** to obtain a part in that resurrection. This resurrection rewards the saints with the gift of immortality, as they cannot die any more.

Luke 20:34-36: - “And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: **But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead,** neither marry, nor are given in marriage: **Neither can they die any more:** for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.”

Jesus also taught concerning those who shall be alive when he comes again, that those who shall stand before him in peace when he comes, shall have been **accounted worthy** to do so.

Luke 21:34-36: - “And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and [so] that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, **that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.**”

NB: - The Greek word that is translated in both of the above passages in Luke as “accounted worthy” is the word “kataxioo” – See Strong’s Concordance; Greek, No. 2661. It is defined as “*consider worthy. ... Passive be considered worthy of a thing*”.¹

Jesus has stated in his message to the Church of Sardis that there are a few believers among them who shall walk with him in white (that is in white robes in the kingdom of God), because they are worthy. They are worthy because they have not defiled their garments of character, as they have become overcomers. Jesus promised **NOT** to blot out the names of the overcomers from the BOOK OF LIFE. Revelation 3:4 & 5: - “Thou hast a few names even in Sardis **which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life,** but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.”

The above passage also indicates that our names can actually be blotted out or removed from the BOOK OF LIFE if we do not live up to our profession of faith in Christ. If our names are not retained in the BOOK OF LIFE we cannot enter into the City of God, but we shall be cast into the Lake of Fire.

Revelation 20:15: - **“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”**

Revelation 21:27: - “And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither [whatsoever] worketh abomination, or [maketh] a lie: **but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.**”

¹ A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature, by W. Bauer. Translated and revised by W. F. Arndt, F. W. Gingrich, and F. W. Danker: page 415.

Michael the Archangel (Michael is another name for our Lord Jesus Christ) shall deliver God's people who have their names written in the Book of God during "THE TIME OF TROUBLE" that shall occur at the end of the world. (The Book being referred to by the prophet Daniel must be the BOOK OF LIFE; and this fact proves that the Lord must examine the names written within the BOOK OF LIFE to see who shall be **accounted worthy** to be saved **BEFORE** "THE TIME OF TROUBLE" commences.)

Daniel 12:1: - "And at that time shall **Michael** stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: **and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.**"

While these last few passages are all indicating that those who are saved in the Kingdom of God shall have had their lives examined by God in the heavenly books **BEFORE** Jesus' 2nd Coming, the following passage from the book of Daniel clearly reveals that God shall sit in Judgment in heaven, opening the heavenly Books, **BEFORE** Christ shall receive his everlasting Kingdom. This must be the process of **accounting worthy** that Jesus referred to in the book of Luke.

Daniel 7:9-14: - "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, **and the Ancient of days did sit**, whose garment [was] white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne [was like] the fiery flame, [and] his wheels [as] burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: **thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.** I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld [even] till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time. **I saw in the night visions, and, behold, [one] like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion [is] an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom [that] which shall not be destroyed.**"

Jesus himself taught us in one of his parables that he is to be compared to a nobleman that went away into a far country (that is into heaven) to receive a kingdom, and as soon as he receives it to return again.

Luke 19:11, 12 & 15: - "And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear. He said therefore, **A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.** ... And it came to pass, **that when he was returned, having received the kingdom,** then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading."

NB: - In Daniel 7:9-14 we found that Jesus is to receive his everlasting kingdom from his Father in heaven **AFTER** the Judgment scene commences; according to Jesus' own words in Luke 19, as soon as he receives his kingdom he will return to earth again. Therefore we conclude that the Judgment of the professed righteous shall take place **BEFORE** the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ. Because at the 2nd Coming Jesus gives eternal life at that time to those who have been **accounted worthy** to obtain it. At the 2nd Coming, Jesus **executes** the Judgment by giving the righteous their eternal reward.

PARTING COUNSEL IN LIGHT OF THIS SOBERING TRUTH: -



The Scriptures leave us in no doubt that the standard that the Lord uses in the Judgment to determine if we shall be **accounted worthy** of eternal life is the Royal Law of Ten Commandments. It is **not** the hearer of the Law that shall be justified, but the believer who actually is **a doer** of the Law that shall be justified before God. Is it any wonder therefore that the wise man Solomon has exhorted us to fear God and keep his Commandments in light of the fact that God shall bring every work into Judgment?

Romans 2:12-16: - "For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law; **(For not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.** For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and [their] thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;) **In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.**"

James 2:8-12: - "If ye fulfil **the royal law** according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors. **For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all.** For he that said, **Do not commit adultery**, said also, **Do not kill.** Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. **So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.**"

Ecclesiastes 12:13 & 14: - "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this [is] the whole [duty] of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether [it be] good, or whether [it be] evil.**"