

Judgment – Rewards
FAIRVIEW TEXAS CHURCH OF GOD
June 13, 2009

We hear a lot about the “judgment”.

- *What is it?*
- *When does it occur?*
- *Who does the judging?*
- *Who is judged?*
- *How will we be judged?*
- *Why is there a need for a judgment?*
- *What are the rewards of judgment?*
- *Why is there a judgment at all?*

Mark 9

- 38 Now John answered Him, saying, "Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow us."
- 39 But Jesus said, "Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can soon afterward speak evil of Me."
- 40 "For he who is not against us is on our side."
- 41 "For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, **he will by no means lose his reward.**
 - People who worship Christ, even in a manner that is not supported by the Biblical teachings, can be in the Kingdom!
 - Jesus said that we should not condemn them nor tell them to stop what they are doing!

Luke 6

- 20 Then He lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said: "Blessed are you poor, For yours is the kingdom of God."
- 21 Blessed are you who hunger now, For you shall be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, For you shall laugh.
- 22 Blessed are you when men hate you, And when they exclude you, And revile you, and cast out your name as evil, For the Son of Man's sake.
- 23 Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed **your reward is great in heaven**, For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets.
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- 27 "But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
- 28 "bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.
 - Jesus directs us to not only put up with them, but we are to love them and do good toward them!
- 29 "To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either."

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- 30 "Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back.
 - Others will take advantage of us!
- 31 "And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.
- 32 "But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.
- 33 "And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.
- 34 "And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back.
- 35 "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and **your reward will be great**, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.
- 36 "Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Luke 19

- 11 Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because **they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately**.
 - Even after the resurrection, the disciples thought the Kingdom would be in their lifetime.
- 12 Therefore He said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.
- 13 "So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'
 - We are to live a normal life (whatever that is).
- 14 "But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this man to reign over us.'
- 15 "And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.
- 16 "Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.'
- 17 "And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'
- 18 "And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.'
- 19 "Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'
- 20 "Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief.'
- 21 'For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.'

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- 22 "And he said to him, 'Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow.
 - The man KNEW what he should do, and didn't do it!
 - When we don't do what we know we should do, we are going against the Holy Spirit.
 - That is the lesson here!!
- 23 'Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?'
 - At the very least – do SOMETHING!
- 24 "And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.'

1 Corinthians 3

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- 4 For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not carnal?
- 5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one?
- 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.
 - Even ministers have different gifts and different callings
- 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.
 - God is responsible for bringing someone to Him
 - He uses individual human beings to convey His message
- 8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and **each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.**
- 9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.
 - Paul includes himself as a "fellow worker"
 - It is simply that his "work" is **different** than those he is talking to – not more nor less important
- 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.
 - Each individual has his/her own responsibility
- 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
- 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,
- 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.
- 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, **he will receive a reward.**

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- 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.
 - If your work doesn't "survive" – at least you did the right thing.

Colossians 2

- 16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths,
- 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.
 - Remember, Paul was talking about vegetarians who avoided meat because of their religious beliefs
- 18 **Let no one cheat you of your reward**, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,
- 19 and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.
 - If you condemn the actions of others' religious actions, then you are going against God's will for you!

Hebrews 10

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- 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,
- 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.
 - As we are living in trying times, we have to be even more resolute in our actions and words
- 26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,
- 27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.
- 28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.
 - Even more than 50 years after the crucifixion, Paul says that the law given to Moses is still in effect
- 29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?
 - Again, we are told to avoid going against the Holy Spirit
 - Whichever way the Spirit directs you, is the way you **MUST** go
- 30 For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "**The LORD will judge His people.**"
- 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.
 - You don't want to be making excuses to God

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- 32 But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings:
- 33 partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated;
- 34 for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven.
- 35 Therefore do not cast away your confidence, **which has great reward.**
 - Your confidence is that you know what the Spirit is saying to you
- 36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:
- 37 "For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry."
 - Jesus will return to this earth

2 John 1

- 7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.
 - Anyone who preaches that Christ was not on the earth as a physical human being is perpetuating a deception
- 8 Look to yourselves, that we (**you**) do not lose those things we worked for, **but that we (you) may receive a full reward.**
 - For there to be a “full reward”, are there lesser rewards?

Revelation 22

- 1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.
 - Water is often used in the Bible as a metaphor associated with the salvation of God and the life-imparting and cleansing ministry of the Holy Spirit.
- 2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
 - **Ezekiel 47:**
 - 1 ¶ Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar.
 - Here the water comes from the temple
 - In Revelation 22, it comes from the throne of God
 - 2 He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side.

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- 3 And when the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the water came up to my ankles.
- 4 Again he measured one thousand and brought me through the waters; the water came up to my knees. Again he measured one thousand and brought me through; the water came up to my waist.
- 5 Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep, water in which one must swim, a river that could not be crossed.
 - The Spirit of God is immensely large
- 6 He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen this?" Then he brought me and returned me to the bank of the river.
- 7 When I returned, there, along the bank of the river, were very many trees on one side and the other.
- 8 Then he said to me: "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed.
- 9 "And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.
 - A very great multitude of fish indicates that everyone will have much more than is needed
- 10 "It shall be that fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be places for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many.
- 11 "But its swamps and marshes will not be healed; they will be given over to salt.
- 12 "Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine."
 - Again, bearing fruit every month indicates that everyone will have much more than is needed
- 13 ¶ Thus says the Lord GOD: "These are the borders by which you shall divide the land as an inheritance among the twelve tribes of Israel. Joseph shall have two portions.
- 14 "You shall inherit it equally with one another; for I raised My hand in an oath to give it to your fathers, and this land shall fall to you as your inheritance.
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- Verses 15-20 give details of how the land is to be divided
- Closely resemble the division in Numbers 34
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- 21 "Thus you shall divide this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel.
- 22 "It shall be that you will divide it by lot as an inheritance for yourselves, and for the strangers who dwell among you and who bear children among you. They shall be to you as native-born among the children of Israel; they shall have an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel.
- 23 "And it shall be that in whatever tribe the stranger dwells, there you shall give him his inheritance," says the Lord GOD.
 - Gentiles will be included in the Kingdom and will have their own portion
 - This was unheard of in the Israelite world
- 3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.
- 4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.
 - Everyone will have the way of God embedded in their brains
- 5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.
 - It is for eternity!
- 6 Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.
- 7 "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."
- 8 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things.
- 9 Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."
 - Don't worship the messenger!
- 10 And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand.
 - Daniel was told to seal up the words he had heard
 - John tells us all we need to know about the Kingdom and the events leading up to Christ's return
- 11 "He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

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- 12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and **My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.**

The Kingdom of God will be MORE than we can possibly imagine!!!!