

The King Is Coming – 2

Introduction: We live in an age of deception. Unfortunately, people are “*tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by **the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness...***” (Ephesians 4:14). John warned in His first epistle of false prophets. False prophets are those **that teach contrary to the Scriptures.**



I John 4:1 “*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because **many false prophets** are gone out into the world.*”

Every century since the beginning of the church, there have been **false Christ’s** and **false prophets**. False prophets claim to walk for God and proclaim false truths. They teach damnable heresies designed to lead people astray. Peter, in his second epistle, mentions these false prophets:

II Peter 2:1 “*But there were false prophets also among the people, even as **there shall be false teachers among you**, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.*”

The best way to **deal with a lie is with the truth**. Some teach that there will only **be one consolidated judgment of man by God**. And yet, as we will discover today, this is contrary to the Word of God. The question we are dealing with today is, **will the lost and saved stand in the same judgment?**

I. Will the Lost and the Saved stand in the same judgment?

The word ‘judgment’ is found 76 times in the New Testament. The subject itself is spoken about frequently. In the Old Testament, at least 218 instances of the word judgment are found. We understood in our last lesson that you and I can stand upon God’s Word concerning the Coming of the King. It has been noted that **all five chapters of I Thessalonians** end with the coming of the Lord for us.

I Thessalonians 1:10 “*10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.*”

I Thessalonians 2:19-20 “19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye **in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?** 20 For ye are our glory and joy.”

I Thessalonians 3:13 “13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, **at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.**”

I Thessalonians 4:17 “17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, **to meet the Lord in the air:** and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

I Thessalonians 5:23 “23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless **unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**”

But when we think of the coming of the Lord, we ought to also realize that there is a time of judgment coming as well. There are many judgments spoken about in the Scriptures. And I would like this morning to give you a few. The first is found in **Hebrews 9:26** “26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: **but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.**”

1. The Judgment of the Believer’s Sin on the Cross of Christ

Dr. Lee Roberson said, “When Christ bore our sins in His own body on the cross, the result was death for Christ and justification for the believer.” Secondly, the Bible speaks about the judgment of self.

2. The Judgment of Self

I Corinthians 11:31 states, “31 For **if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.**”

“**Self-judgment**” for the believer “**avoids chastisement.**” God chastens His children in righteous judgment to correct and help us. We should not confuse the chastening hand of God with the rod of judgment from God. Those who are His children by God’s grace through faith are free from that condemnation through Christ.

3. The Judgment Seat of Christ

I want to read a few passages that deal with this subject, and we will come back and

speak of this judgment in more detail. **Romans 14:10-12; I Corinthians 3:11-15; II Corinthians 5:10**

4. The Judgment of Living Nations

This particular judgment has to do with the nations that exist at the revelation of Jesus Christ. When the Lord returns, He will reign. The Bible tells us in **Matthew 25:32**, “*32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*”

As you read through that passage in **Matthew 25**, the Lord provides examples of faithful acts of service rendered to God’s people, and the Lord counts them as unto Himself. This judgment differs from the Great White Throne judgment in **location, subjects, basis, result**, and the resurrection involved in the latter and not the former.

5. The Great White Throne Judgment

This last terrible judgment is given to us in **Revelation chapter 20**. Here, the lost dead, both small and great, will be judged. The books will be opened, and they will be judged out of those books.

Revelation 20:11-14 “*11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.*”

The result is that whosoever is not found in the Book of Life is cast into the lake of fire, which is the second death. As we think about these different judgments given to us in the Scriptures, we want to take some time and understand **the judgment seat of Christ**. This is the judgment of believers’ works.

When will this take place?

It will take place after we are caught up to be with the Lord.

Revelation 22:12 exhorts us with these words, “*12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*”

I Corinthians 4:5 gives us the understanding **that nothing is hidden from the Lord, even the motives of the heart are seen** by Him, *“5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.”*

What Will Be The Result Of This Judgment?

Dr. Lee Roberson said, “When we stand before Christ at the judgment seat, we will be there in our resurrection or translated bodies. We will stand before Him as those who have been redeemed by His precious blood. We will stand there to be judged, not for our salvation, but for our works.” The saved are eternally secure because of the Lord Jesus Christ. However, **no Christian will escape the Judgment Seat of Christ.** Our works, according to the Bible, must be tried. The Bible tells us they will be tried by fire.

I Corinthians 3:12-13 states this, *“12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 **Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is.**”*

According to this passage, our works will be tried based on **quality rather than quantity.** The Word of God gives us **three categories that abide** and **three that do not.** The idea is simply this: *Some will receive a reward. Some will not receive a reward.*

I Corinthians 3:14 -15 *“14 If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”*

Our understanding of this should cause us to do some evaluating concerning our time of sojourning here in this world.

1. No work will abide **that is not** done in love.

If God’s actions, which are perfect and pure, are declared to be grounded in His perfect love, why would we think God would judge us differently?

That wonderful verse in **John 3:16** exemplifies this, *“16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

John 13:34, our Savior, who is the judge, states, *“34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one*

another.”

2. Works **done for the praise of men** or **selfishly** will not abide.

In **Matthew 6:1-2** we find this example given to us of the Lord, *“1 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. 2 Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, **They have their reward.**”*

We notice in this example that it is not just the praise from men that disqualifies this reward but **the selfish intent to garner the praise of men**. Some folks tell you about everything they do “for the Lord” solely to receive the praise of men. And there are others who I believe are just trying to give glory to God.

3. We **must labor willingly**.

Look with me in **I Corinthians 9:16-17**. Notice what Paul states, *“16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: **for necessity is laid upon me**; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! 17 For **if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will**, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me.”* When we think about the commission of the church to preach the gospel and disciple others, we understand that God **has committed these things to us. Similarly**, there was a mission that was entrusted to Paul.

4. Our labors **must be characterized by faithfulness**.

Remember, we are looking at quality work.

I Corinthians 4:1-2 *“1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God 2 Moreover it is required in stewards, **that a man be found faithful.**”*

Matthew 24:45 tells us, *“45 Who then is a **faithful** and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?”*