

Question: "Can you comment on the Judgment Day?"

According to Scripture, the Judgment Day is just as certain and indisputable as are the Creation Days recorded in Genesis chapter one. There are over 300 references to the Day of Judgment in the New Testament alone. When Paul preached the gospel of Christ in Athens, he told the philosophers of his day: "Truly, these times of ignorance (idol worship, bj) God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead" (Acts 17:30-31).

The passage above shows The Judgment Day to be a matter of fact because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the day God shall officially sentence all men to their eternal destiny, whether for a reward or punishment. The Judgment Day is appointed by God, and is as universal as the death of human beings (He 9: 27). Peter, Paul, and John spoke often of the Judgment Day (2Pe 3: 10; 2Co 5: 10; I Jn 4: 17). "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body...whether good or bad" (2 Co 5: 10).

Christ Jesus will be the judge and his word will be the standard. "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son" (Jn 5: 22). Jesus is "the Lord, the righteous Judge" (2Ti 4: 1, 8). He said, "...the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (Jn 12: 48). It is sad that so many will appear before that Judge with so little knowledge of His word.

The Judgment Day will be a very personal day for each of us. The Scriptures teach that we shall be judged as individuals, not as groups, classes, races, etc. (see Ro 14: 10, 12; 2Co 5: 10). "God...will render to every man according to his deeds" (Ro 2: 5-6, see also vss. 7-9). The doctrine of "imputed righteousness" states that when the Father in Heaven looks at His children, He can only see the personal righteousness of Christ. This is clearly a false concept. For while no one deserves eternal life, and no one will have earned it; nevertheless, our actions, attitudes, and conformity to God's laws will be under consideration on that Great Day (Jn 12:48).

Dear reader, the Judgment Day is the final day. There will be no retrials. When the sentence is pronounced, Jesus said the unrighteous "will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life" (Mt 25: 46). He also said, "But of that day and hour no one knows, no, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only" (Mt 24: 36). While we may not know when that day is coming, we can prepare for it by obeying Christ and remaining true to Him (Ac 2:14-39; 1Th 5:1-10; Re 2:10). The moment our spirit leaves the physical body, whether in death or at the coming of Christ, we are headed for one of two abodes. (Jn 5:26-29; 1Th 4:13-18). Are you prepared for that day?

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