

The Judgment of God

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

13 Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole [duty] of man. 14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil. NIV

There will be a judgment for all men.

The bible is crystal clear about the fact that God is coming to judge the world in righteousness. He is certainly going to bring about justice in the earth and “render to each man according to his deeds.” He is already at work, (and has from the beginning), judging the nations as He sees fit bringing about their rise and fall according to His perfect and divine eternal plan for mankind (Job 12:23, Isa 40:15-17, Matt 25:31).

Rom 2:5-11 - 5 But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for **the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.** 6 God "will give to each person according to what he has done." 7 To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. 8 But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. 9 There will be trouble and distress **for every human being** who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; 10 but glory, honor and peace **for everyone** who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. 11 For God does not show favoritism. NIV

Jude 14-15 - 14 Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: "See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones **15 to judge everyone,** and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him." NIV

1 Peter 4:4-5 - 5 But **they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge** the living and the dead. NIV

Jesus is the judge.

Jesus Christ, God the Son is actually the One member of the godhead who implements the judgment. He is present as “the judge” in all cases of the judgment of men’s lives as well as nations.

John 5:22-23 - 22 Moreover, the Father judges no one, but **has entrusted all judgment to the Son,** 23 that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him. NIV

John 5:27 - 27 And he has given him authority to judge **because he is the Son of Man.**

Matt 25:31-33 - 31 "When **the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory.** 32 **All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another** as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. NIV

Acts 17:31 - 31 For he has set a day when **he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed.** He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

Acts 10:42 - 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that **he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.** NIV

Rom 2:15-16 - 16 This will take place on the day when **God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ,** as my gospel declares. NIV

Rev 2:23 - 23 I will strike her children dead. **Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.** NIV

There are Two Judgments.

Basically God judges all mankind, but the outcome is vastly different for those who are in Christ verses the unbelieving who have rejected the Lordship of Christ. ***God makes a very definite distinction between those who have saved by grace through faith in Christ and those who have not.*** We therefore refer to the judgment for these two groups as two separate events. They may actually happen at different points in the history of time

(which is vigorously debated among evangelicals), but the fact that there are two outcomes is very clear.

John 5:24-29 - 24 "I tell you the truth, **whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned**; he has crossed over from death to life. 25 I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. 27 And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. 28 "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice 29 and come out-**those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned**. NIV

Daniel 12:2 Multitudes who **sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt**. (NIV)

Acts 24:15 and I have the same hope in God as these men, that **there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked**. (NIV)

The Judgment Seat of Christ – Of the Living

This is the judgment of *those who have been saved through repentance and faith in Christ*. The context of the two passages below is that the letters were written to the Christians in Corinth and in Rome. Therefore when the bible says "we," it is speaking about the Christians. Therefore we see clearly that we will give an accounting of our lives to God, but not for our sins. Otherwise we would die, or perish forever in the lake of fire, or be separated from God forever (2 Thes 1:9). ***Judgment for Christians is for the purpose of eternal reward, not for the penalty of sins.*** The entire gospel message is summed up in the statement that Jesus died for the penalty of our sins and we will not be condemned for them.

2 Cor 5:6-12 - 6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. 7 We live by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be **away from the body and at home with the Lord**. 9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 10 **For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad**. 11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. NIV

Rom 14:10-12 - 10 You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? **For we will all stand before God's judgment seat**. 11 It is written:

"As surely as I live," says the Lord, "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God." 12 So then, **each of us will give an account of himself to God**. NIV

The Great White Throne Judgment – Of the Dead

This is the judgment of those who have rejected Christ, (by not submitting to His Lordship by repentance and faith), and died in an unforgiven state. They will be resurrected only to stand in judgment before a Holy God, with no covering for their sins. Without the atonement of Christ to cover their sins, they stand naked before God having stored up wrath all their lives only to have the ultimate penalty given for sins, death! (eternal separation from God in the lake of fire) Dear reader, does this frighten you? And well it should, repent therefore and be saved from God's wrath through Christ!

Rev 20:11-15 - 11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. **The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books**. 13 The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. 14 Then death and Hades were

thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. NIV

Matt 13:37-43 - 37 He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The **harvest is the end of the age**, and the harvesters are angels. 40 "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. 41 **The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.** 42 **They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.** 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear. NIV

Romans 2:8-9 - 8 But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. 9 There will be trouble and distress **for every human being** who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile;

Now is the day of salvation.

God is coming to judge the living and the dead. That includes everyone in every place whoever lived at every time. He has provided a way to be reconciled to Himself, namely through repentance from sins and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. The door of God's mercy in Christ is open wide receiving all who will come in repentance. For those who reject Christ as Savior and Lord, Christ will reject them on the day every man is judged. In Christ your sins can be covered and their penalty of death can be paid by Him. Man lives one time, having the opportunity to repent and prove his repentance by his deeds. After life, comes the judgment. If one is in Christ, he will receive eternal reward and enter into the joy of eternal life. If one is not in Christ "their remains only judgment and the fearful expectation of raging fire which will consume the enemies of God." (Heb 10:27) He will return again to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him, but bring judgment on those who reject Him.

Heb 9:26-28 - 27 Just as **man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment**, 28 so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; **and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.** NIV

2 Cor 6:1-2 - 6:1 As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. 2 For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you."

I tell you, **now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.** NIV

Luke 13:23-30 - He said to them, 24 "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because **many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.** 25 Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, **you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.'** "But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.' 26 "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' 27 "But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!' 28 "**There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth**, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. 29 People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. 30 Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last." NIV

Matt 25:1-13 - 25:1 "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 **Five of them were foolish and five were wise.** 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. 4 The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. 6 "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' 7 "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' 9 "'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' 10 "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. 11 "Later the others also

came. **'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!' 12 "But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.'** 13 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. NIV
John 3:35-36 - 35 The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands. 36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." NIV

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Questions

Rom 2:5-11 - 5 But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for **the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. 6** God **"will give to each person according to what he has done."** 7 To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. 8 But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. 9 There will be trouble and distress **for every human being** who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; 10 but glory, honor and peace **for everyone** who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. 11 For God does not show favoritism. NIV

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1. According to the above scriptures, who will God judge?

2. On what basis will God judge each person?

3. What will he do to the ungodly?

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4. According to the above scriptures, who is the judge?

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5. According to the above scriptures, what is the outcome for those who have done good?

6. What will happen to those who have done evil?

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7. According to the above scriptures, how many Christians will be judged?

8. Who will we give an account to?

9. What will be the basis for judgment?

10. Knowing then the fear of the Lord, what do we do?

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11. According to the above scriptures, who is being judged?

12. What happens to those being judged if their name is not found written in the book of Life?

13. What will the angels do?

14. What is the penalty for those who do evil?

15. In the Romans passage, who will receive wrath and anger?
