

God's Judgment

What Does the Bible Say About God's Judgment? God has always existed as judge over His creation. But we need to understand how He judges, when He judges and why He judges. Knowing how, when and why He judges helps us understand the kinds of judgment described in the Bible. In pleading for any righteous individuals in wicked Sodom, the patriarch Abraham asked God, "*Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?*" (GEN18:20-25) There were not even 10 righteous persons in Sodom, but God *delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked.* (2PE2:7) God is faithful to save those He calls righteous until the day of final judgment.

When God determined to punish Sodom and Gomorrah for their sins, Abraham recognized that God is the judge of men's actions. God passed judgment, issued a verdict and carried out the sentence. In Jude, verses 14-15 tells us that "*the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgment on all.* God, the Judge over all creation, makes decisions. It is in His power to decide and carry out-righteous judgments. We can be confident that God is a righteous judge. *He shall judge the world in righteousness,* (PSA9:8) *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.* (2Cor.5:10) *For the Lord is our Judge, The Lord is our Lawgiver, The Lord is our King; He will save us,* (ISA33:22)

In the Bible the word "judgment" is used two ways. One refers to the statutes, testimonies, laws of God. The other concerns God's judgment on men and nations. Hebrew terms used for "to judge," is usually with the sense of "to rule or govern" with the authority to punish. Abraham speaks of God's judgment in the context of Ruler, judgment based on a moral standard, and justice. (GEN6:5-13) The word "to judge" means to separate or make a difference between. This includes bringing to trial, examining evidence, determining guilt or innocence, and deciding the penalty for sin. Eternal judgment is the final judgment which determines the eternal destiny of all souls. God judges sinful behavior of mankind. God's real desire is not judgment but that all men come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ: *For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.* (JOH3:17) God's desire is that all men everywhere repent. God is long-suffering toward us. This is the loving nature of our God who is filled with mercy. God did not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (2PE3:9) If they do not repent of sin they will experience His judgment: He will judge based on what is right and wrong; *because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness., by all by raising Him from the dead.* (ACT17:30-31)

The Bible tells us that "For the Lord is our judge...God the judge of all..." (HEB12:23) that God the Father is "Lord of heaven and earth" (MAT11:25) As always, He remains the ultimate authority, presiding over the entire universe and everything in it, visible and invisible. Our eternal destiny is in His capable hands. Yet God the Father has commissioned God the Son to be the judge human beings: "*For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son*" (JOH5:22) God has given Lord Jesus Christ authority to judge: for He has given all judgment-the eternal judgment-entirely into the hands of the Son. And He has given Him authority and power to execute judgment. This is because Jesus is of same mind as the Father. "*I and My Father are one*" (JOH10:30:5:27) And the one qualified to judge by virtue of his sinless humanity and defeat of Satan and sin through the cross. (REV5:1-14) "*Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.*" (JOH5:25,28) Everyone who has died will hear Christ's voice "*for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice*" The context shows resurrection from the dead intersects with Christ's coming judgment. All men will be resurrected, which will occur with a time of coming judgment. We have inspired Word, divine judge as Jesus Christ who will judge the world in near future. Divine judgment is a reflection of sovereignty of God's plan.

The standard by which we all will be judged is the Word of God: *He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.* (JOH12:47-48) It is not standards, creeds, traditions of man by which we will be judged. It is not on basis of organizational, denominational, religious rules. Worldly principles of judgment vary from nation to nation. Worldly principles of judgment and punishment vary because people interpret certain acts in different ways. The judgment of man varies because standards by which they judge vary. But the principles of God's judgment by the standard which we will be judged the fixed standard of the Word of God: Mankind will be judged by the word. *Forever, O Lord, Thy Word is settled in heaven.* (PSA119:89)

Sin always has its consequences and Judgments calls our attention to both the reality and nature of the consequences of sin. Bible reveals judgment is necessary because of sin against God's law, ungodliness, unrighteous, unbelief, trespass, evil deeds. They are all words for sin-pride, greed, lust, envy, gluttony, wrath, laziness. Bible defines sin as breaking, transgression of God's law. It is described as disobedience or rebellion against God, independence from God, miss the mark of God's standard of righteousness. *Thus I will punish the world for its evil And the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, And will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.* (ISA13:11) All mankind has been judged as being under sin. (GAL3:22) This day of grace has come to its close, which may the Day of the Lord is described as day of wrath will begin. *for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?* (REV6:17)

There is no escaping the fact that all mankind will be judged. Men and nations will be judged according to the knowledge of God which was given them. Jesus said some would be judged more severely than the cities of Sodom, Gomorrah, Nineveh, Tyre, and Sidon. These were evil cities mentioned in the Old Testament which God judged and punished. The reason Jesus pronounced more severe judgment because these cities had more knowledge of God. Jesus Himself had ministered in these cities and performed mighty works of healing and deliverance. Still, people of these cities would not repent. (MAT11:21-24) *The men of Nineveh shall rise in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, a greater than Jonah is here.* (MAT 12:41)

A general revelation of God is given to all men. Though people worship many different gods or idols, there is only one true God. God has made himself known to us through his marvelous creation, thru the voice of conscience within us, and through his mighty works throughout history. However, we can learn much more about God through the written Word, Bible which he gave us, it also teaches us how to live our lives in a way that most pleases him. So they have no excuse for not knowing God." (ROM1:20) This general understanding of God given to all men through creation is the basic standard by which men will be judged. Nothing is hidden or kept secret from the Judge. We learn that books of Life will be opened and all secrets will be revealed, everything that we have ever thought, said or done! (REV20:12)

God's judgment is just -- every man will get exactly what he deserves. God "*will repay each person according to what they have done.*" (ROM2:6) According to works means God will take the fruit of the Spirit. (GAL5:22) and your light shine before others, that they may see your "good deeds. (MAT5:16) God evaluates a man's works and judges accordingly. Warning to those who lead Christians into sin will face God's judgment. (MAT18:7) *Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes!* (MAT18:7)

God's Judgment is perfectly righteous: God's judgment is perfectly fairness. The punishment (penalty) must be right also. *and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.* (LUK12:48) It is that we are held responsible for what we have. If we are blessed with talents, wealth, knowledge, time, it is expected that we use well to glorify God and benefit others. And faithfulness requires that we manage those things wisely and unselfishly.

Each person will be judged individually: The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself. (EZE18:20) Judgment determining individual eternal destiny will not be on a group or denominational basis. It will be on an individual basis. *Who are you to judge another?* (JAM4:12) God is the only Judge.

According to the light: God will apply the principle of to whom much is given, much is required. The Jews possessed the Law and knew God's truth. Jews had been given much light. They do know what is right and wrong. Thus these people were bound to honor God. Those who comes to know the Lord Jesus and lives on the basis of that relationship. Those who receive additional revelation by hearing God's Word will be judged by a higher standard of knowledge.

According to Truth: Judgment of God is according to truth. (ROM2:2) God will not judge according to appearances. He will not pay attention to hearsay evidence or rumors. (ISA11:3) But Jesus judge on basis of true knowledge, understanding, wisdom. God looks on the heart, not just on outward appearance. (ISA16:7) Without partiality: means without special favor. People will not be judged on the basis of their wealth, social position, nationality, education. "*Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear!*" (1PE1:17)

According to motives and thoughts: *He who judges me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.* (1CO4:3-5) Paul was pointing out judgment wasn't the opinions of congregation or of human courts or even Paul's own judgment of himself. God will evidently judge our secret deeds, sins and even our hidden motives. Paul was saying that we should not condemn others now, because we cannot see hidden things of their hearts, but we must remember that God is not finished with any of us yet. And it is not judging well of ourselves, justifying ourselves, that will prove us innocent. Our own judgment is not to be depended upon as to our faithfulness. There is a day coming, every slandered believer will be justified, every faithful servant approved/rewarded. (ROM2:16)

According to attitude/mind: Acts 12:20-23, "On an appointed day, Herod dressed, sat on the throne, and made a speech to them. The people shouted, "The voice of God, and not of a man!" *And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, .. and died.*" God poured out his wrath on him for his pride, exalted, arrogance in thinking he was in control of his life and people. King Herod accepted the praise and didn't give God the glory.

According to the law: Bible contains God's laws, standard of righteousness by which everyone is judged. (ISA28:16) Scriptures is to describe God's instructions to His people. They all represent His will. All of them were to be respected and followed. According to righteousness: He has appointed a day, in which He will judge the world in righteousness. (ACT17:31) *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.* (ECC12:13-14)

The different judgments

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There are several judgments mentioned in the Bible. *“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of justice is the scepter of Your kingdom.”*(PSA45:6) *And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day.*(JUD1:6)

The judgment of Adam and Eve.(Gen 3:14–24) Original sin is the result of Adam and Eve's disobedience to God when they ate a forbidden fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden. God banished the first men from the Garden of Eden for violating His clear command. This judgment affected all of creation and generations.

The judgment of Cain and Abel.(Gen 4:11-12) The brothers made sacrifices to God, but God favored Abel's sacrifice instead of Cain's. Cain then murdered Abel out of jealousy, whereupon God punished Cain by condemning him to a life of wandering. If you do what is right then you will be happy, but if you do the wrong things, you will have to be sad.

The judgment of the prehistoric world.(Gen 7:17–24) God sent a worldwide flood in judgment of mankind's sin in Noah's time. It was God's judgment on man's wickedness and only eight righteous people, every kind of animal, were spared aboard the Ark. Noah and his family, whose faith led them to obey God's command to build the ark.

The judgment at the Tower of Babel.(Genesis 11:5–9) Noah's post-flood descendants remained in one location in defiance of God's command. So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth”

The judgment of Egypt and their gods.(Exodus 7:4) The ten plagues against Egypt at the time of the exodus were “mighty acts of judgment” against a stubborn, cruel king and an idolatrous people and their gods.(Exodus 12:12)

The judgment of Christ:(Isaiah 53:4-8) Christ died for sin. He took the sinners place on the cross, and died for the sins of the world as payment for our sins, to satisfy the demands of God's holiness. Jesus was raised from the dead, because His death was sufficient to meet judgment of every sin. The result of this judgment is eternal justification of believers, (HEB10:10-14) When Christ died on the Cross, believer's sin nature was also judged and crucified with Christ(ROM6:4-11) .Jesus took judgment upon Himself by His crucifixion and death.(HEB2:9) This is a judgment that also defeated Satan.

The judgments of the tribulation period.(Rev 6-16) These terrible judgments are pictured as seven seals opened, seven trumpets blown, and seven bowls poured out. God's judgment against the wicked will leave no doubt as to His wrath against sin. Besides punishing sin, these judgments will have the effect of bringing the nation of Israel to repentance.

The judgment of the nations.(Mat.25:31–46) The subjects of this judgment are described as being all nations. The word "nations" refers to all nations other than Israel. In this context, it is all the peoples living through the Tribulation on earth at the time of Christ's return, and is a separation of the saved and the lost at that time. Those that are saved enter the millennial kingdom, inheriting kingdom of God. Those that are lost are sent away to everlasting punishment.

The judgment seat of Christ.(2Co5:10) This is a judgment that all believers of this age(Grace period) will participate. Therefore, it is believers that stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Resurrected believers meet the Lord in the air, followed by an examination before the Judgment Seat of Christ.(1CO15:51-53) The sins of the believers were judged at the Cross. It is a place where crowns are given. At the Judgment Seat of Christ, believers will be judged on their service to determine their rewards. *“he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him.*(HEB.6:10)

The Great White Throne Judgment.(Rev 20:11–15) This general judgment of unbelievers for their sins and rest of the saved occurs at the end of the Millennium. It is now the dead, the unsaved, that stand before the Great White Judgment Throne. Then the dead are resurrected and stand before the throne. They did not accept Christ's payment for their sins so now must be judged by their works. Rom6:23 says the wages of sin is death, refers to the second death, which is eternal separation from God. At this judgment, unbelievers are judged for their sins and consigned to the lake of fire.

The Sinful World: (JOH12:31) Jesus said: Now is the judgment of this world. Because it is ruined by the presence of sin, the physical world is already condemned by God's judgment. The Bible says the world will be destroyed by fire: in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.(2PE3:10) The city of Sodom/Gomorrah is set before us for an example.

The world is facing coming judgment, and the Holy Spirit also convicts them of this truth. *“When [the Spirit] comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment”*(John 16:8–11) He will “convict” the world; that is, He will reprove it and show it to be wrong. The world is a sinful place, and one of the Holy Spirit's tasks is to convict world of its sin. When a person truly understands his sin, deserving of punishment, awakened to his soul's need, realization that God is just, He will acknowledge his guilty position before a Holy God. The surety of judgment should cause the sinner to turn to the Savior and cast himself on the mercy of God in Christ., “mercy triumphs over judgment”

Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix trembled.(ACT24:25) Paul's preaching reprovved Felix. Grace is God's favor/gift: All are justified freely by his grace thru redemption that came by Christ. But some think of God only as being of infinite love, who gave His Son to die for man, forgetting it was His justice demanded price for sin, that the lake of fire, and His righteous anger at man's rejection of His love and grace

The Bible indicates there is a past, present, and future judgment. Bible is a history of God's past judgment from time of Adam and Eve it records God's judgment of nations and individuals. Understanding God's judgments will give us insight into God's plan. God wants Christians to understand truth of judgments and motivate them to godly living. All men are presently judged as sinful or righteous before God. God's present judgment on unbelievers is by showing His wrath because they hinder the truth. And the future judgment in Hebrews 6 when he speaks of "eternal judgment."

Edenic Judgments: After the fall of Adam and Eve, judgment for mankind's disobedience of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.(GEN2:17) Adam and Eve died spiritually and began to die physically. Judgment included loss of Edenic conditions and in its place, the curse of the earth with its often extreme weather conditions, disease, thorns, warfare with Satan.(ROM8:18-22) Enmity between the seed of serpent and the seed of the woman, curses or judgments upon Satan.

Satan and fallen angels: This is God's judgment to cast Satan down from his position in heaven with his angels who followed him to this earth.(EPH 2:2) Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God passed final judgment on Satan: the prince of this world [Satan] is judged.(JOH16:11) And having spoiled principalities and powers [forces of Satan] He [Jesus] made a show of them openly triumphing over them in it. God sentenced Satan and his angels condemning them to the Hell.(JUD 6) Satan bears ultimate responsibility for originating sin and for causing people to sin. Satan is confined during the millennial reign, but after the 1000 year reign of Christ, Satan will be loosed for a little while. Satan will go out to deceive nations but he will be destroyed, judged and cast into the lake of fire.(REV20:10)

The Present Judgments: The self-judgment of the believer. "I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust. This being so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.(ACT24:15-16) Apostle spoke of his commitment to maintain a clear conscience, cleared by confession and the forsaking of all known sin. He wanted to walk blamelessly, to keep short accounts with God, and to stay in close communion with the Lord lest he should become disqualified for rewards. Though believers are saved and justified by faith in Christ as the crucified Saviour, but Christians will battle with sin and will not always be victorious. So it is necessary for believers to judge their own sins in the light of Scripture. 1 Corinthians 11:27-32 for in this passage we have a reference to both the self-judgment of the believer and the discipline judgment of God on believers. *Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord.* Unfortunately, some of believers had failed to examine their hearts and judge their sin by honest confession followed by a commitment to deal with it in the power of the Spirit.

As a result, number of things occurred: they were making a mockery of significance and meaning of the Lord's supper. As to the immediate consequences, some were weak (feeble, a loss of energy), some were sick, and some were asleep (spiritual or physical death) And there were also divisions, factions and focus on personalities rather than the Savior. They were showing favoritism and hurting other believers rather than showing love and concern as it should be among believers in Christ. So, Christians need to examine their hearts and actions for sin according to the Scripture and then judge the sin they find as sin and confess it to the Lord. Our tendency is to rationalize and excuse our sins, but God says we are to judge them as sin to God. Confession of sin restores us to fellowship and to Spirit's control. With the Spirit back in control and the believer in fellowship he or she can then produce fruit for which they will receive rewards.

The discipline judgments of God: New Testament teaches us that one of the ministries of our heavenly Father is the ministry of loving discipline. "*He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him diligently.*" (PRO13:24) Discipline is evidence of love. Heb.12:4-11, *My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens everyone he accepts as his son.* God's present judgment of believers is in love. He corrects them when they do wrong Just as a natural father corrects his children, God judges' behavior of His children. If they sin, God corrects them in love just as a father does his son. God's chastisement [correction] of His children is for a specific purpose: *Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.*(v.11) God's objective in chastening is that we return unto Him, a call to repentance. *then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment.*(2PE2:9) God disciplines His children for the following reasons: To bring a disobedient child who refuses to judge himself back into fellowship. It is part of training process by which God's children are brought into the experience of God's holiness. It is designed to produce obedience and to protect them against physical death. It yields peaceful fruit of righteousness.

It is clear that God is to redeem sinners and deliver them from the consequences of their sin. His mercy is wide toward anyone who would turn to Him in repentance and faith, trusting the work of Jesus Christ to save them from their sin. Jesus preached the mercy of God and the need for men to repent and believe in Him. Yet, despite having come to His own people Israel, his own did not receive Him—but rejected Him, crucifying Him as a victim of Roman soldiers, judged by Pilate. We see result of such rejection and the certain judgment that falls upon them. God gave Israel its spiritual blindness, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.(ROM11:25)

God planned His whole creation. Human beings prominently in the awesome future God is working toward. Judgment is a recurring theme throughout the Bible. *Arise, O God, judge the earth; For You shall inherit all nations.* (PSA82:8) We are the household of God and we have a living hope, because Jesus our substitute was judged in our place, and suffered God's wrath in our stead. The steps of God's master plan of salvation are laid out in the Bible. *"He made known to us the mystery of His will, in accordance with the plan which he determined beforehand in Christ, to be put into effect when the time was ripe; everything in heaven and earth, might be brought into a unity with Christ"* (EPH1:9-10) Judgment is a part of divine plan in that work of salvation. God accomplishes His plan in stages: *"And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,"* (HEB9:27) Each person is held accountable for their own life.

1 Peter 4:17, suggest that Christians may face God's judgment: *"For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?"* Peter is exhorting the church—the house of God—which was facing persecution, to persevere. The believers were struggling to separate from the former worldly sins that had once enslaved them. (v.1-4) Peter reminds them that the wicked will face God's judgment (v.5) but that believers in Christ must hold themselves to a higher standard than they once did. The "fiery trials" that they were facing were to help refine them like gold. (v.12) God allows difficulties and suffering in the lives of His people to purify them. When we are persecuted for the cause of Christ, we share in His sufferings (v.13-14) And when we share His suffering, we know Him and the power of His resurrection. In Romans 8:17: *"Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory."* Part of God's judgment upon sin is physical suffering. When His own children experience such suffering, it is not for our harm but to make us more like Jesus. Judgment for the children of God can be considered discipline and they must undergo during sojourn on earth. (HEB12:4-11) It is designed to purge sin from our lives and teach us obedience. It is used by the Lord to discipline, chasten, purify, refine us for His glory. When we read about judgment starting with the house of God, we understand that this is the universal church, which is the church that Jesus purchased with His own blood. He is the Head of the church, He expects the church to discipline its members when it is necessary. It could be what Jesus was talking about in the Book of Rev. where their lamp stand or candlestick is taken away (REV2:1,5), or *"So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth"* (REV3:15) Lukewarm churches are accountable to God and will have to stand before Him to explain our negligence of duty and church discipline, absence of the church ordinances (e.g., Communion, ordination-to the Melchizedek priesthood) Erroneous doctrines-allowing even a little leavening in the church, can infect the whole lump. Have you seen a church divided over doctrinal disputes? Was it an essential or important doctrine? *We must be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace and to grow to maturity in Christ, so that we may attain to the unity of the faith.* (EPH4:3,13) Essential truth that is necessary for the gospel. To deny truths would be heresy and a denial of the Christian faith. (GAL6:1) The "trespass" may be a doctrinal error. Our goal should be restoration. And, we should act with gentleness and humility. (2TI2:24-26) We will not win a person in error to the truth by being quarrelsome, impatient, or harsh. Rather, we must gently, lovingly offer correction, while praying that God will grant repentance. Our desire should be to glorify God through the other person's embracing God's truth. Some of most prevalent of false doctrines are: devotion to Mary is a form of idol worship. (ascension of Mary, mediates/intercedes other than Christ is not an apostolic doctrine); Jesus Christ is not God; baptism-other than immersion, baptized as infants do not receive faith for salvation; speaking in tongues, prophecy, divine healing etc. ceased with the apostolic age. But Spiritual gifts, baptism in the Holy Spirit/anointing has many purposes in the lives of believers are still operative today in the Church. What do we do with unrepentant sinner in the church? First, we must mourn over unrepentant sin, but not ignore it. (1CO5:2) If true repentance does not occur, then one or two more people are brought in to address the issue. If repentance does not occur, then bring in the church to address the issue. If true repentance does not occur, then treat them as a gentile. Paul says we remove the person from among us. Second, the purpose for any of our actions is because we are trying to rescue a person's soul. We understand the weight of God's heart for those who stray away. (JAM5:19-20) Every soul is important. It does not matter what the person has done. Every soul matters to God and we are the ones who must act as restorers. Person's sin should not be exposed, unless he chooses to reveal it himself. When a sinning believer is rebuked and he turns from his sin and is forgiven, he is won back to fellowship with the body and with its head, Christ. Are you not to judge those inside the church? (1CO5:12) On occasion a Christian will wander away from fellowship and find himself ensnared by sin thru ignorance or willful disobedience. It then becomes necessary for the church to seek repentance and restoration of that Christian. As shepherds of the flock, elders love the sheep and are held accountable by God for their spiritual welfare. God's desire is that His people learn to walk in holiness and fellowship with Him. It is a time of joy, both in heaven and within the church as in the parable of lost things, when Christian truly repents. Purpose of church discipline is spiritual restoration of fallen members and consequent strengthening of the church and glorifying of God. So, judgment begins in the house of God with His own children, as He teaches us to live like Jesus.

The Day of Judgment

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For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The Lord will judge His people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.(HEB10:30-31) God taking vengeance on the enemies for their aggression against His people. However, aggression also God's punishment of His own disobedient children. God is awesome, fearful, dread sovereign Lord of the universe to whom all men and nations will give an account. Bible declares that God "has set a day in which he purposes to judge the inhabited earth."(ACT17:31) There will be a day when Jesus comes again and all who have ever lived will stand before Him to give account for their lives. This day of judgment, on sinful mankind and corrupted world, when Jesus, the Son of God, will judge "the living and the dead" The Judge on that day will be Jesus Himself will reward each person according to how he has lived his life on earth.

The Bible is affirmed that people must answer to the judgment of God by which moral acts are encouraged and evil deeds are condemned. The Day of Judgment is determination of whether you lived a life of righteousness or wickedness. Those who judge others are guilty, also, of hypocrisy. Bible warns us of Judgment Day "flee from the coming wrath" (LUK3:7) "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. God 'will repay each person what have done '(ROM2:5

Bible records several times when God passed judgment on individuals and nations. For example, Isaiah 17-23 is a series of judgments pronounced against Damascus, Egypt, Cush, Babylon, Arabia, Jerusalem, Tyre. These localized judgments serve to foreshadow the judgment to come. Isaiah 24 describes the judgment of God over the whole world. Often there is a temporal judgment on sin that occurs in this life, but the final judgment will occur at the end of time. There is but one judgment day for both saved and lost will be judged.(REV11:18) However, final judgment that happens before God destroys the earth, will encompass everyone who has ever lived and will consign people to their final destiny.

Revelation 20:11–15 contains one of the most vivid descriptions of Judgment Day: "Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened." This judgment occurs just after the end of kingdom reign of Christ on earth, In this passage, we see that God is the final judge who is sitting on the throne, introduces to us final judgment, end of human history and beginning of the eternal Kingdom-New heaven and new earth. This is all who have ever died, small and great. No one escapes Judgment Day. Judgment Day is carried out according to what individuals have done in their lives. Ultimately, our entrance into heaven or hell is based on whether or not our names are recorded in the book of life. Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will enter the new heaven and new earth. Those who are not recorded in the book of life will be cast into the lake of fire. Destiny of wicked will be in control of Almighty God who will assess everyone according to their soul's status.

For now, our fate is in our own hands. The end of our soul's journey will be either in an eternal heaven or eternal hell. (MAT25:46) We must choose where we will be by accepting or rejecting the sacrifice of Christ on our behalf, and we must make that choice before our physical lives on this earth come to an end. After death, there is no longer a choice, and our fate is to stand before the throne of God, where everything will be open and naked before Him.(HEB4:13) In Mat.24:40, Jesus says that some will be "taken and others left": so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus asserts that just as people in Noah's day were flood came and destroyed all sinful mankind, people will be taken in judgment at the second coming.(LUK17:27) The earth was corrupt before God and was full of violence that they continued eating and drinking until the day the flood swept them away. By faith, Noah and his family entered the Ark(safety of Christ). Once they were all inside, God shut the door of the Ark. The Ark offered rescue, saves from flood of sin. The Ark pictures salvation in Jesus Christ. Jesus said "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved"(JOH10:9) Now God's grace is available. So, before the time of judgment arrives, like Noah enter through the door, Jesus Christ by faith!

How can a sinner have his or her name written in the Book of Life and therefore stand before Him in final judgment? How can a sinner be justified before a holy and righteous God and avoid his wrath? "Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ"(ROM5:1) Be sure you're saved. Repent of sin and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior. The person who has faith in Christ has already been justified—declared righteous—by God on the basis of Christ's perfect work on his behalf. All who have faith in Christ are declared righteous, and their names are written in the Book of Life, because their punishment has already been borne by Christ on the cross.

The Bible clearly teaches that God has a day prepared when He will judge all men. All of us will face that judgment. Are You Ready for the Judgment Day? For many people did not prepare spend their life preparing for this day. As a result, they will be lost.(MAT25:1-10) Concerning the day of God's judgment, Jesus said "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect"(MAT24:44) Surely we need to study, believe it, understand the gospel of Christ. Obedience is necessary to be ready for the judgment. The goodness of God, given men a chance to repent. God wants everyone to repent so they will not perish at the judgment. Those who do not obey the truth but do evil will receive wrath, tribulation. Those who continue doing good will receive eternal life, glory, honor and peace.

There are two separate judgments. Believers are judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ. *So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.* (ROM14:10-12) Bible says, we will have to give an account of ourselves. Part of this is surely answering for un-confessed sin and un-sanctified character we committed. Believers must give an account of their lives in service to Christ and the Lord will judge the consecration he made including concerning issues of conscience. We will have to give an account for our actions, motives and stumbling block for others *"But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment."* (MAT12:36) The fire of God's judgment will completely burn up the "wood, hay, stubble" of the words we spoke and things we did which had no spiritual value. Our position in Christ is foundation which we build upon the "gold, silver, precious stones" of good works in Christ's name, obedience, fruitfulness dedicated spiritual service to glorify God and build the church.

Believers will be judged by how they have built their lives on the foundation of God's Word: Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 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. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. (1CO3:12-15) In the natural world, wood, hay, stubble all grow visibly above the ground. They burn easily. They are examples of works done by believers to be seen by man. The motive for these works was wrong. Gold, silver are not destroyed by fire. In the natural world, these substances develop below the ground unseen by man. They are an example of works done, not done just to be seen and praised by the man. They are works which are valuable in God's Kingdom because they were done with right motive to glorify God.

The works of true believers will be judged on the basis of obedience. The parables of the talents in Mat.25 and the pounds in Luke 19 were to illustrate this truth. Here servants were judged on the basis of what they had done with what they had been given the gifts, talents, skills, callings, and ministries. Our Master has given us a responsibility, message of Gospel or pastoral ministry. As we obey mission, we are investing what God has given us and increasing it. Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, (LUK12:42-48) This scripture is referring to servants of the Master (Christ). These servants did not steward what Christ gave them well. For example, this parable could be speaking of an elder who begin to treat his sheep poorly (beat his servants), who started to misuse money from the ministry for a lifestyle (eat and drink and be drunk). This servant of God stopped carrying about his assignment of caring, feeding for God's people, and focused on his own desires of wealth, fame and spent most of his time catering to his own self-life and feeding his flesh on worldliness. Those servants who were disobedient were judged unfaithful.

In Matthew 7:21-23, Jesus spoke of the contrast of good or fruitful trees and corrupt trees with bad fruit. Man's "fruits" are his works and Jesus judge false prophets by their fruit. It speaks of wolves that look like sheep, thorns that look like grapes, thistles that look like figs. Remember, this judgment is future, in that day they will call upon Jesus as Lord. They spoke of worthiness of their good works to make them righteous, rather than the good work of Jesus did to secure salvation for mankind. These people claiming merit of their good works but pride, not humility. Works done for our own self-centered reasons do not glorify our Father in Heaven or His will. They must be motivated by sincerity and truth. And Jesus will declare to them on day of judgment, *'I never knew you; depart from Me, you that work iniquity!*

There will be another judgment for those who are in Christ to determine rewards for godly service and faithfulness. Jesus commanded us to store up treasure in heaven. (LUK12:33) This treasure will be revealed at the judgment seat of Christ. This glorious day will be like an awards ceremony, because everyone present has already had their eternal secured when they were born again. Jesus Himself will give us crowns and treasure to enjoy for all eternity according to what we have done with all He had entrusted to us. Believers will be rewarded based on those good works, how well we obeyed the Great Commission, how victorious we were over sin, how well we controlled our tongues, etc.

The general judgment is who will be judged at the Great White Throne Judgment. (REV20:11-15) All the rest of the saved (gleanings to be added) and the wicked will be resurrected at the end of 1000 yrs. They will be judged according to which are written in books. All nations are before Him, He separates righteous from unrighteous, as shepherd divides his sheep from goats. Those on His right hand are sheep the saved. The king invites those on his right to 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Those who followed the antichrist's lead are goats. (MAT25:34,46) Rev.20:12 says wicked will be "judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works" They will be destined to eternal punishment. *And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.* (REV20:15)

It is important to understand that you must live as a new creature in Jesus after conversion and live a holy life. It is possible to be saved and then because of continuing in sin to "backslide" into the old life. The Bible confirms that it is possible to have your name written in the book of life but then have it blotted out because of sin or fallen from grace (EXO32:33) Be faithful, Lord will be judged people based on the accounts of their lives that were recorded in this book.

He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life. (REV3:5)

There are five heavenly crowns mentioned in the Bible that will be awarded to saints at the judgment seat of Christ. Crowning is the rewarding of saints for their life time work on earth.(2CO5:10) As such the rewards, God promises those who are faithful. The Greek word translated —crown is *stephanos* means —a badge of royalty. God ultimately bless his people with crowns, and to receive crown is receive honor, authority, glory, approval. Saints will be rewarded with crowns. Rewards will show the reality of our sonship.(GAL4:7) justice of God.(HEB6:10) to fulfill law of sowing and reaping.(GAL6:7-9) make good on His promise that our labor in the Lord is not in vain.(1CO15:58) Jesus will bring rewards with Him when He returns. How Can I store up treasure in heaven? When we live sacrificially for Jesus' sake, serve Him by serving the Church. There will be different stars shining differently in heaven. We will have different bodies in heaven according to the crown crowned which determines glory of your eternal body. i.e. the outshining is the glory of different bodies, and glory of stars. *'There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star different from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead'*(1CO15:41)

1) The Imperishable Crown— *"Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is disciplined in all things. . but we for an imperishable crown"* (1CO9:24-25) This crown is given to believers who faithfully run the race, who crucify every selfish desire in the flesh and point men to Jesus. This crown also for the sacrifices they were willing to make for God to successfully complete the call and mission God had called them to do. All things on this earth are subject to decay and will perish. Jesus urges us to not store our treasures on earth *"where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal"*(MAT 6:19) But the heavenly crown; those who faithful endurance wins a heavenly reward.(1PE1:4)

2) The Crown of Rejoicing —*"For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?"*(1TH2:19) To those who faithfully are witnesses to the saving grace of God and leads souls to Jesus. This crown also named soul winner's crown. It indicates that God will be giving a crown to those who have witnessed to others and leading people to Christ. When you help someone to be led to the Lord, you have just been used as a vessel of God. There is rejoicing even now in heaven over one sinner who repents.(LUK15:7) In Philippians 4:4 *"rejoice always in the Lord"* for all the bountiful blessings our gracious God has showered upon us.

3) The Crown of Righteousness — *"henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing"*(2TI4:8) To those who love the appearing of Christ, who anxiously wait and look forward to the day when He will return for His saints. This crown is given to those who have lived a good and righteous life for God while living on earth. Just before Paul was martyred, he had the assurance of this reward. He says, *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."* We have to remain true to God even in the face of opposition, oppression and adversity.

4) The Crown of Glory — *"And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away."*(1PE5:1-4) Peter is addressing to the elders/pastors and will be given to ministers who faithfully caring and feeding—"shepherd the flock" of God. This includes preachers, teachers, missionaries and those who teach the Word of God in their respective ministries. This crown may signify importance and sacrifices of bringing up others into ways of God. We must also remember that crown will be awarded to all those who long for or love His appearing. This word "glory" is a word referring to very nature of God and His actions. It entails His great splendor and brightness. It recognizes believers are incredibly blessed into likeness of Christ Himself. *"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us"*(ROM 8:18)

5) The Crown of Life —*Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."*(REV2:10) This crown is for believers to those who endure sufferings, undergo hardships, bravely confront persecution for Jesus, even to point of death on His behalf. This crown also called the crown of martyrs. Probably being willing to die for your faith in God would be the ultimate sacrifice. It is the greatest act of courage and love that you can show God. Blessed is the man who endures temptation.(JAM1:12)The word "life" is often used to show a relationship that is right with God.(JOH10:10)Jesus provides us what is required for our spiritual lives. He is the One who provides "living water." He is the "bread of life." "He has promised us eternal life"(1JO2:25) This crown references not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. It is bestowed upon "those who persevere under trials." *Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.*(MAT5:11)

Bible tells us this crown of life is for all those who love God. How do we demonstrate our love for God? For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. As His children we must keep His commandments, obeying Him, remain faithful. To receive the crown awaits for those who were willing to do that extra effort. Because of Christ, we have been crowned with glory, honor, so that we might love him and live for him.(PSA8:5) Your Crown is meant to Glorify God.(REV4:1-11) And like the twenty-four elders with golden crowns on their heads, cast their crowns before our Savior's throne, acknowledging that He alone is the reason we have a crown at all, so that we might be better suited to sing the praises of God. Rewards in heaven are completion of our earthly story, and it will be eternally satisfying!

Jesus said I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.(JOH11:25-26) By the act of creation, God brought the present world into being with the order of time. Someday God will bring this present world to an end. There are many events which will happen in the world at this end of time, as the second coming of Jesus Christ, only God knows the exact timing of these events. As individuals, a moment awaits each of us when time shall be no longer, end of our earthly lifetime, physical life and step from time into eternity. While death is the end of physical life on earth, it is not the end of human existence.

The meaning of the word resurrection is a raising up from the dead. There are three resurrections identified: Past: The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Present: Spiritual resurrection of believers in Jesus Christ. Baptism in water is an outward sign of death to the old life of sin and the spiritual resurrection of the believer in Jesus Christ. And it is the new life which he lives:(ROM6:4-5) Death to sin resulting in a new life: Spiritual resurrection results in death to sin. The believer does not live like he used to live. He is dead to the evil things of the world and alive in Jesus: *Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*(v,11) Future: Future resurrection of all that are in the graves. Jesus Christ was raised from the dead by the power of God. Through Jesus the believer experiences present spiritual resurrection. Through Him the future resurrection of the dead from the graves will happen. The resurrection confirms Jesus Christ is the Son of God:(ROM1:4) Because of the resurrection of Jesus, believers will be resurrected and have new glorified bodies: The redemption of the body is the rapture.(1CO15:51-52)

Behold I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.(1CO15:51-55) The first resurrection of the Church will occur at the time of the rapture. All those who have placed their trust in Jesus Christ and have died before Jesus returns, will be resurrected at the rapture. Christians who are alive and those who have already died, will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air and be with Him always!

Bible describes resurrection of the dead in order, a series of resurrections, some to eternal life in heaven and some to eternal damnation.(JOH5:28) *For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.*(1CO15:22-23) The first resurrection of the dead was that of Jesus the first-fruits. The doctrine of resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is so important to the Christian faith. *But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen; And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain and your faith is also vain.*(1CO15:13-14) Believing in the resurrection of Jesus Christ is necessary to become a true believer:(ROM10:9) At the resurrection, death will be defeated. *that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the Devil.*(HEB2:14) There are two other resurrections of the dead, resurrection of the just and unjust which will occur in the future.(ACT.24:15) Resurrection of life called the resurrection of the just will happen when Jesus returns to earth for His Church as Jesus promised.(JOH14:2-3) This event will resurrect from the dead all believers, they that are Christ's. There will be a rapture, means carrying away of the saved to heaven. *For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.* I The4:13-18 gives detail about Christ's return for His Bride, And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Christ Himself will return. There will be a reunion of faithful saints who have died, believers living at the time of Christ's return and their Lord Jesus Christ in mid-heaven. Believers ascend in the clouds to meet the Lord. The resurrection to eternal life is described as "the first resurrection" and identifies those involved as "blessed and holy.(REV20:5-6) The second death (lake of fire) has no power over these individuals. The first resurrection, then, is the raising of all believers called the "resurrection of the just"(LUK14:14) and the "resurrection of life"(JOH5:29) The first resurrection takes place in various stages. Jesus Christ Himself the "first fruits," the resurrection of "the dead in Christ" at the Lord's return. Believers who die during the Tribulation as martyrs will be resurrected at mid of tribulation. First resurrection occurs when "last trumpet" sounds. OT saints will be resurrected at Christ's return at the end of Tribulation.

There is a final resurrection, apparently of all the unbelieving dead of all ages. Jesus Christ will raise them from the dead at the end Millennium, the thousand-year reign of Christ.(REV20:5) This is the resurrection described by Daniel as an awakening *"Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."*(DAN12:2) Revelation 20:12-13 identifies those comprising the second resurrection as the wicked judged by God at the great white throne judgment prior to being cast into the lake of fire. The second resurrection, then, is raising of all unbelievers to judgment and torment is described as the second death. It is described by Jesus as the "resurrection of damnation"(JOH5:29) A second raising of the dead will occur after the 1,000-year reign (the Millennium) of Christ on the earth. What great rejoicing will attend the first resurrection! This reward according to Heb.11:35, called "A better resurrection" What great anguish at the second! What a responsibility we have to share Gospel! *"And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire.*(JUD23) Jude urges his readers to snatch out of the fire unbelievers who are perilously close to eternal punishment. We need to seek their redemption, not their condemnation.

There are three locations where final judgment will occur: (1) The Judgment seat of Christ: Those judged here will be all true believers: We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.(ROM14:10) *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*(2CO5:10) (2) The Throne of His Glory: The second place of judgment is called "the throne of Christ's glory." Those judged here will be those who remained on the earth during the tribulation period. The righteous will be resurrected and judged prior to Jesus setting up the Millennial Kingdom on earth. *"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.*(REV20:4-5) (3) The Great White Throne: This is the final place of judgment. Those judged here are the remaining dead who will be resurrected at the close of the Millennium.(REV20:11-15) This is second resurrection called the resurrection of unjust. The unrighteous will be judged because of their sin cast into a lake of fire along with Satan and his evil angels.

The righteous are destined to eternal life in the presence of God. The presence of God is called Heaven. In the Bible it is described by several names: The Father's House: Jesus described it as His Father's house, a place of home, rest, and fellowship: *In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*(JOH14:2) The Bible compares Heaven to a country to which we are traveling just as Israel traveled to the Promised Land: But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly; Christians refer to heaven and the future new Heaven and new earth as the Promised Land. Heaven is compared to a city: for He has prepared a city for them. (HEB11:16) *And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of Heaven.*(REV21:2) Heaven is a place of: Holiness:(v.27) Joy:(v.4) Beauty:(v.18) Light and Glory:(v.23) Reigning with Christ: Jesus promised. To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne.(REV3:21) The dwelling place of GOD: *Behold, the tabernacle of God (dwelling place) is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them and be their God.*(REV21:3)

Hell is the eternal destiny of the wicked. Hell is a place of: Extreme suffering: *And the Devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*(REV20:10) Sorrow: And being in torments in Hades, ..but now he is comforted and you are tormented will spend eternity in pain, suffering, and torment.(LUK16:23,25) Hatred: And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.(DAN 12:2) Wicked: But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."*(REV21:8) Hopelessness: When a wicked man dies, his expectation shall perish and the hope of unjust men perish.*(PRO11:7) Eternal Punishment: Hell was originally prepared for Satan and his angels.(MAT25:41) *Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:* Because of sin, man is also destined for eternity in Hell. All who reject Christ, remain in their sin will be condemned. Everything we do in this life matters. The consequences of this life are eternal.

Eternal death/second death is the fate that awaits all people who ultimately reject God, reject the gospel of His Son, Jesus Christ, and remain in their sin and disobedience. Physical death is a one-time experience. Eternal death, on the other hand, is everlasting. It is a death that continues through eternity, a spiritual death is experienced on a continual basis. Just as spiritual life is everlasting life, then so is punishment for wicked is everlasting. There is no way to escape.

God does not send people to Hell. Man chooses to go there by rejecting Jesus Christ and living a sinful life. Bible is clear unbelievers are storing up wrath against themselves. God has provided a way of escape from eternal punishment thru the plan of salvation. Have you put your trust in Christ as Savior who died for your sin? Accept Jesus Christ as your Savior by faith and escape eternal separation from God. He is not willing that any should perish. When a believer sins, he needs only to repent and confess his sin and God erases it from the record. And we will, at last, comprehend how great the love of our God for us is. It is a reminder that we are pardoned, and we will fully realize of His grace.

Understanding of eternal judgment should result in spiritual maturity in life of the believer. The subject of Christian maturity, which is "let us go on to perfection"(HEB6:1) We must all stand before judgment seat of Christ. We should walk in a Holy fear of the Lord in this life. We must really know Him "for our God is a consuming fire."*(HEB12:29) means a fire that destroys and symbol for that wrath. Only by His anointing will we be able to attain to maturity. Only by the Holy Spirit living through us, can we be perfected in love. Let us come boldly before His throne, and get a hold of the grace we need to have confidence in the Day of Judgment. Perfect love casts out all fear of His judgment.*

How should the doctrine of eternal judgment affect our lives as believers?*Since all these things will thus be destroyed, what manner of persons ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives. Therefore, beloved, you have a hope like this before you, make every effort to be found you at peace with God and man, spotless, blameless.*(2PE3:11,14)