

Our Issues – God’s Answers

Is Judgment Really Coming?

INTRO: One of the most sobering verses in the Bible is Hebrews 9:27 – “... it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.” According to God we will die and we will face judgment. God Himself assures us that Judgment is coming. But when, about what, and for whom?

I. THE PAST JUDGMENTS – John 3:16-20, 36; 1 Jn. 5:11-12

II. THE PRESENT JUDGMENTS – 2 Co. 5:8; Luke 16:22-23

1. Judgment By The Lord’s People – 1 Co. 11:27-28
2. Judgment Of The Lord’s People – 1 Co. 11:29-32

III. THE PENDING JUDGMENTS – John 5:22, 27 Jesus = The Judge!

1. The Bema Seat Judgment
 - (1) The Chronology – Re. 4:4
 - (2) The Cited – 1 Co. 3:11; 2 Co. 5:10
 - (3) The Criteria – 1 Co. 3:12-13; 2 Co. 5:10
 - (4) The Consequence – 1 Co. 3:14-15; Re. 4:10
(cp. 1 Co. 9:24-25; 1 Th. 2:19; 2 Tm. 4:8; Ja. 1:12; 1 Pt. 5:4)
 - (5) The Challenge – 1 Pt. 1:17; 2 Co. 5:9
2. The Tribulation Judgments – Mt. 25:31-46 (Gent.), 1-30/Ek. 20:34 (Jew)
 - (1) The Chronology – Joel 3:1-2 Mt. 24:31/Ek. 20:34
 - (2) The Cited – Mt. 25:32 Ek. 20:33-34
 - (3) The Criteria – Mt. 25:34-46 Ek. 20:38; Ma. 3:5
 - (4) The Consequence – Mt. 25:34, 41, 47 Mt. 25:30; Zc. 13:8-9
 - (5) The Challenge – 1 Pt. 4:17-18; Ac. 17:30-31; 2 Co. 6:2
3. The Great White Throne
 - (1) The Chronology – Re. 20:5, 7, 11
 - (2) The Cited – Re. 20:12-13
 - (3) The Criteria – Re. 20:13, 15
 - (4) The Consequence – Re. 20:10, 14-15; 21:8; Re. 6:23
 - (5) The Challenge – 2 Pt. 3:11-15a

CONCL: Some eight different judgments are declared throughout the Bible. Death is inevitable and judgment is sure. Sin condemns and only Christ can cure. Repent of your sin and receive Jesus Christ the Lord TODAY!

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How Can I Survive Suffering?

INTRO: Every Christian is either just going into suffering, in the midst of suffering, or just coming out of suffering. Suffering is normal Christian living. In fact, Peter warns us to not think it strange when it comes (1 Pt. 4:12). But knowing that God brings it to make us better, how do we survive?

I. REMINDERS FOR SUFFERING

1. Divine Perspective – Is. 55:8-9; Ps. 115:3; Ps. 18:30
2. Divine Prerogative – Job 1 & 2; 1 Co. 10:13; Ja. 1:2
3. Divine Providence – Ep. 1:11; Ro. 8:28
4. Divine Purpose – Ro. 5:3-4; 8:28-30, 18; Ja. 1:2-4; 2 Co. 3:18

II. REASONS FOR SUFFERING

1. To Testify – Job 2:3; Jn. 9:3; 1 Pt. 4:16
2. To Test – Ja. 1:2-4; Ge. 22; Da. 3; 6
3. To Teach – 2 Co. 1:9; 12:7-10
4. To Temper – Jn. 15:2; 1 Pt. 5:10; Pp. 4:13; 2 Tm. 4:17; He. 5:14
5. To Turn Around – He. 12:5-11; Hg. 1:2-11, 12-14; 1 Co. 11:27-31

III. RESOURCES FOR SUFFERING

1. The Holy Scriptures – 2 Tm. 3:16-17; Ps. 119:28
2. The Holy Spirit – Pp. 1:19b; Ro. 8:26-28; 2 Co. 1:3
3. The Holy Saints – Pp. 1:19a; 2 Th. 3:1-2; 2 Co. 1:4

CONCL: It has been said that the Christian life is no bed of roses. NOT TRUE. It has incredible beauty, and it has lots of thorns! God produces wondrous beauty through us while giving us thorns to protect us. Let us never forget that our loving and wise heavenly Father is doing everything needed to make us look like Jesus!