

## Your Day In Court (Part 2 of 6)

**Last sermon we looked into the Lamb's Book of Life, the books of works, and the Book of Remembrance. We closed with the analogy of escaping a prairie fire.**

**John 5:28-29** "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice {29} "and come forth; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

**They will all be there:** Adam, Genghis Khan, Mother Teresa, Stalin, Hitler, Mary, the mother of Jesus... resurrected to life or to condemnation.

Jesus often **spoke of the time He would leave** His disciples and return to His Father to prepare a place for them. **John 14:3 NKJV** <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

He would come for His own but **His return would also usher in judgment** upon all mankind. **Matthew 16:27 NKJV** <sup>27</sup> For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

**Revelation 1:7 NKJV** <sup>7</sup> Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

All men who ever lived are to be brought before the Judgment Seat of Christ to receive **either everlasting blessedness or everlasting punishment**. True believers will be rewarded, not on account of their good works, but because of the atoning work of Christ.

Their **faith will pass the test and send them to the abode of God** and their works done in sanctification by the Spirit of God will determine their reward in eternity.

For believers, whether asleep in Christ or still alive, this **takes place at the rapture**. **1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 NLT** <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. <sup>17</sup> Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.

**1 Corinthians 15:51–52 NKJV** <sup>51</sup> Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—<sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

**For the disobedient**, however, the resurrection is not unto rewards but unto **condemnation**. As in the parables of the **ten virgins** that were to meet the Bridegroom, the **servants and their talents**, and the **Judge dividing as a shepherd divides sheep from goats**, we are **warned of the certainty of judgment**.

**The distinction** between the children of God and the children of the devil is that the former bring forth the **fruits of righteousness** and the latter the **fruits of sin**. **Matthew 12:35 NKJV** <sup>35</sup> A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

**Matthew 10:26 NKJV** <sup>26</sup> ...For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

**Ecclesiastes 12:14 NKJV** <sup>14</sup> For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

Again, **believers are saved** from the wrath of God but their **works done in the flesh will not survive** the consuming fire of God.

**John 11:25** Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life**. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

**Rev 1:18** "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And **I have the keys of Hades and of Death**."

**Today we will look at the resurrection of the sinner:**

**Rev 6:12-17** I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. {13} And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. {14} Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. {15} And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, {16} and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and **hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!** {17} "For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

The Judge of all the earth will be **dreadful**. No one will be able to come into His Presence without a bended knee... **He is an omnipotent king!**

**Rev 1:14-17** His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; {15} His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; {16} He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

**Awesome!**

{17} And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

This was **spoken by "John the Beloved"**, Jesus' closest friend who had walked with Him for three years and laid his head on Jesus' chest at the Last Supper.

**If John fell at His feet as if dead, what will I do? You do? Sinners do?** Believers will see the signs of His coming and be confident but the unrighteous will be utterly dismayed.

Remember, there are **two resurrections**, the resurrection of life and the resurrection of condemnation but it is the **same Lord**. All will come before Him: all the criminals, dope dealers, prostitutes, porn kings and queens, casino owners, Wall Street tycoons, kings of

nations, your aunts and uncles, kids and parents, neighbors, Caesar, Pontius Pilate, Agrippa, Felix, Festus, Caiphas, Annas...the great and the small ... you and me.

### **Each will be eternally judged – with no Court of Appeals.**

**Mark 9:48** “where ‘Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched.’”

**Revelation 21:7–8**<sup>7</sup> He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.<sup>8</sup> 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.”

**Revelation 22:11–12**<sup>11</sup> He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”<sup>12</sup> “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

### **Hell won't be the same for everyone**

**Luke 12:47-48** “And that servant who knew his master’s will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. {48} But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.”

### **It's not too late to ask for mercy... but it will be!**

**Rev 9:6** In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.

### **It's not too late to tell others...**

**Acts 10:42 NKJV**<sup>42</sup> And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead.

**2 Timothy 4:1 NKJV**<sup>1</sup> I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

### **...but it will be!**

**Jer 8:20** “The harvest is past, The summer is ended, And we are not saved!”

**Romans 10:9–10**<sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.<sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.