

4. Understanding the Judgments of God

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Subtitle: God's Judgment of the Nations (at the 2nd Coming of Christ)

- We are currently studying God's Word concerning God's Judgments, to help us understand what will happen in the future (end-times & beyond)
- Many believers tend to lump all the Judgments of God together into one single event & end up quite confused
- Every believer should know about the future Judgments of God & gain greater boldness, confidence & urgency in reaching spiritually lost people

John 5:22–24 (NKJV) *For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, 23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. 24 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.*

- 2 Corinthians 5:21 tells us that Jesus Christ became sin for us
- Through His sacrificial death on the cross, He has taken God's judgment & penalty on Himself, so that we can receive His righteousness
- All believers in Jesus Christ are now saved from God's future judgment

Last week's message: The Judgment Seat of Christ

1. Jesus Christ is Judging Gentile Nations at His Second Coming

The major prophetic events at the end of the church age will be:

- The Rapture of the church, followed by:
- The seven year “Great Tribulation” period, followed by:
- The Second Coming of Jesus Christ
- Jesus Christ is returning to earth to set up His literal (physical) Kingdom (Millennial Reign of Christ [1,000 years. Rev. 20:4])

Matthew 25:31–46 (NKJV) *“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. 33 And*

*He will set the **sheep on His right hand**, but the **goats on the left**. 34 Then the **King will say to those on His right hand**, ‘**Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world**: 35 for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ 37 “Then **the righteous will answer Him**, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ 40 And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, **inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.**’ 41 “Then **He will also say to those on the left hand**, ‘**Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels**: 42 for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 43 I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ 44 “Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ 45 Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, **inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.**’ 46 **And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.**”*

- This is not a parable subject to varying interpretations, but a precise prophecy of what will happen at the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ
- That said, Jesus is using figurative language, such as: sheep, goats, etc.
- Upon His return to earth, Jesus will sit on the throne of His glory, as King of kings, and Lord of lords
- All the nations of the world will be gathered before Him (assembled)
- He will separate them, as a shepherd separates sheep from goats
- The sheep (the righteous vs. 37 & 46) on His right side
- The goats (the cursed vs. 41) on His left side
- The main point of this separation exercise is to establish:
 - Choose those who will be allowed to remain on earth & enter into Christ’s Millennial Kingdom
 - Remove the wicked from the earth & cast them into hell (everlasting fire & punishment vs. 41 & 46)
- The main focus of removing & punishing the wicked is their ill treatment of the Jewish people (vs. 40 ... these My brethren)
- They have violated God’s covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:3)
- Jesus Christ will only allow good people to enter into His Kingdom, which will span across the whole world

2. God will gather all (Gentile) Nations in the Valley of Jehosaphat

Joel 3:1–2 (NKJV) *For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, **2 I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My land.***

- Notice, how God refers to the people of Israel (My heritage Israel)
- He also refers to the land of Israel, which “they” have divided up (UN)
- God gathers the nations & brings them to the V. of Jehoshaphat (Zech. 14:2)
- He will judge them there on account of “My people Israel”

Matthew 24:40–41 (NKJV) *Then two men will be in the field: **one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.***

- This passage is Scripture is sometimes used concerning the rapture
- However, it isn’t speaking about the rapture of the church, but rather, the taking away of wicked people to rid the earth of all unbelievers & rebels
- It is still sorting out the goats from among the sheep
- This would include all who received the mark of the beast (Rev. 14:9)

Matthew 13:41-43 (NKJV) *The Son of Man will send out His angels, and **they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, 42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.** He who has ears to hear, let him hear!*

- This is from the parable of the wheat and tares
- Same also in the parable of the dragnet

Matthew 13:49 (NKJV) *So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just.*

2 Thessalonians 1:7–10 (NKJV) *... to give you who are troubled rest with us **when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These***

shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.

3. Two “classes” of human beings will enter into the Millennium

- a. All the resurrected saints in their glorified body (Matthew 22:29)
- b. All natural righteous people who are alive on earth at the time of Christ's 2nd Coming

Philippians 3:21 (NAB) *He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.*

- As resurrected saints, we will enter Christ's Kingdom in our glorified body
- All natural people (sheep) who will be allowed to enter Christ's Kingdom will be in their natural state (physical body), and continue to be “fruitful and multiply” & re-populate the earth

4. Jesus Christ is given dominion and a Kingdom by His Father

Daniel 7:13–14 (NKJV) *I was watching in the night visions, and behold, **One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.***

- Pr. Daniel saw a vision of heaven's courts, where the Son of Man (Jesus Christ) was brought before the Ancient of Days (God the Father)
- He was given dominion and a kingdom, ... *that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him*

Daniel 7:18 (NKJV) *But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.*

Revelation 2:25–26 (NKJV) *But hold fast what you have till I come. 26 And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations.*

- Resurrected saints will have power (authority) over which nations?
- Over the nations of natural people who will multiply during the Millennium