

Judgments

I. THE JUDGMENT OF THE BELIEVER'S SIN

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. John 5:24.

In the above verse our Lord tells us that the believer "cometh not into condemnation. The believer will not come into judgment because:

1. Jesus Christ paid the penalty, and on the grounds of His substitutional death, the believer is separated from his sin forever (Ps. 103:12).
2. The sins of the believer have been "blotted out" and God has promised that He "will not remember thy sins" (Isaiah 43:25).
3. Our Lord suffered for our sins, "the just for the unjust" that we might be saved and never come unto judgment as sinners (1 Peter 3:18).
4. The believer will never be condemned with the world, because Christ was condemned in his place. (2 Cor. 5:21).

II. THE JUDGMENT OF THE BELIEVER'S SELF

For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world. 1 Corinthians 11:31,32

The judgment of the believer's self is more than judging things in the believer's life. It is not enough just to judge sin in the believer; he must judge self.

1. To judge self is to see yourself as God sees you (Col. 3:4).
2. To judge self is to deny self (Rom. 7:18).
3. To judge self is to lose the self-life (Gal. 2:20).
4. To judge self is to no longer be self-conscious (Matt. 28:20).
5. To judge self is to no longer be self-controlled (Acts 9:6).
6. To judge self is to no longer practice self-esteem (Phil. 2:3).

III. THE JUDGMENT OF THE BELIEVER'S WORKS

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. 2 Corinthians 5:10

The believer's works will be judged at the "judgment seat of Christ". Their works will be judged, not their sins, for their sins were judged in Christ on Calvary.

1. This judgment will take place following the rapture (1 Thes. 4:4-18).
2. At the judgment seat of Christ, the believer will give an account of himself to God. (Rom. 14:10-13).
3. It is a most humbling thought to know that someday the believer will face all of his works - good or bad (Gal. 2:20).

So whatever you do , do it to the glory of God (Col. 3:17).

IV. THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left... Matthew 25:31-46

This judgment is not the judgment of the great white throne (Rev. 20:11-15). A careful comparison of the two judgments will establish the following facts:

1. The judgment of the nations will take place "when the Son of man shall come in His glory...then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory" (Rev. 20:11-15). The great white throne is never called "the throne of His glory."
2. At this judgment, He will judge the living nations (Joel 3:11-16). At the white throne judgment, He will judge the wicked dead.
3. At this judgment, there will be no resurrection of the dead. At the great white throne, all the wicked dead are raised. (Rev. 20:13).
4. At this judgment, the judge is God "the King" judging the living nations in His earthly kingdom. At the great white throne, the judge is God, judging only the wicked dead.
5. At this judgment, there are no books opened. At the great white throne, the "books were opened".
6. At this judgment, there are three classes judged; "sheep"—the saved (Rev. 7:9-17); "goats"—the unsaved (2 Thes. 1:7-10); "brethren"—the elect Israel (Rev. 7:1-8). At the great white throne, there is only one class: "the dead".
7. At this judgment, the King gives the kingdom to those who have eternal life. At the great white throne, there are no saved and no kingdom, they are all "cast into the lake of fire."

V. THE JUDGMENT OF THE WICKED

And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:11-15

1. At this judgment, the wicked dead will seek a hiding place from the face of the Lord Jesus Christ, the judge. But there is no hiding place.
2. At this judgment, the "dead small and great" will stand before God. But the greatness of the great will be of no value (Rom. 3:23).
3. At this judgment, the "book of life" will be opened. The wicked will be shown God's mercy and they will be without excuse (Rom. 1:18-20).
4. At this judgment, the dead will be judged "according to their works." (Luke 12:42,48).
5. At this judgment, there will be no acquittal, no higher court to which the lost may appeal. Man is lost, and lost forever; damned to all eternity, and without hope. There is a hell (Luke 16:19-31), and in hell, there is no hope, no sympathy, no love; even the love of God does not extend beyond the gates of hell.