

Unbelievers and Judgment Day

Revelation 20:11-15

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- “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”

What If One Does Not Believe In Judgment Day?

- Presupposes that he does not believe in God; and since he does not believe in God, he does not believe God has spoken
- If he does not believe that God has spoken, he does not believe he is accountable to anything higher than his own conscience
- Has unbelief ever shielded anyone from the hand of God?

Judgment Is By The Word

- John 3:17-18 - “For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”
- John 12:47-48 - “And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. 48 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.”

Judgment Is By The Word

- Every person is already in a state of condemnation, made evident by the word of God
 - Rom. 3:23 - “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”
 - Rom. 6:23 - “For the wages of sin is death”
- Jesus came to save us from that condition
 - If one rejects Jesus, he chooses to remain in sin and death
 - Jesus does not condemn him; he condemns himself by rejecting salvation
 - The word of God simply highlights one’s choice

Judgment Is By The Word

- John 5:24 - “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.”
- John 8:31-32, 51 - “Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free... 51 Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death.”

Judgment Is By The Word

- Heb. 4:12-13 - “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

Judgment Is Inescapable

- Amos 9:1-4ff - "...He who flees from them shall not get away, And he who escapes from them shall not be delivered. 2 Though they dig into hell, From there my hand shall take them; Though they climb up to heaven, From there I will bring them down; 3 And though they hide themselves on top of Carmel, From there I will search and take them; Though they hide from My sight at the bottom of the sea, From there I will command the serpent, and it shall bite them; 4 Though they go into captivity before their enemies, From there I will command the sword, And it shall slay them..."

Judgment Is Inescapable

- Heb. 2:1-3 - “Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him?”
- Heb. 12:25 - “See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven”

Judgment Is Inescapable

- Rev. 6:15-17 - “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?”

Judgment Is Individual

- Every deed, public and private
 - Ecc. 12:13-14 - “Let us hear the conclusion of the matter; all has been said: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. 14 For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.”

Judgment Is Individual

- Every word, intended or unintended
 - Matt. 12:34-37ff - “...For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. 35 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. 36 But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. 37 For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

Judgment Is Going To Be Unpleasant For Unbelievers

- Separation from God and all who love the Lord
 - Matt. 25:31-33, 46 - “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... 46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Judgment Is Going To Be Unpleasant For Unbelievers

- 2Thes. 1:8-9 - “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”
- Heb. 10:31 - “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

“I Don’t Believe It”

- What happened the last time someone asked, “Who is the Lord that I should listen to Him?”
 - Ex. 5:1-2 - “Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.' 2 And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go.”

“I Don’t Believe It”

- So, God showed Pharaoh His Divine credentials
 - Ex 12:29-31 - “And it came to pass at midnight that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. 30 So Pharaoh rose in the night, he, all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not one dead. 31 Then he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise, go out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. And go, serve the LORD as you have said.”

“I Don’t Believe It”

- Don’t wait until Judgment Day to become a believer
 - Your unbelief will not keep it from coming
 - Your unbelief will not protect you from God’s judgment
 - Your unbelief will not shield you from the fires of hell

“I Don’t Believe It”

- The only thing your unbelief guards you from is salvation from the state of condemnation you presently live in, a condition you consciously choose to remain in.
 - Jesus did not come to condemn you; He came to save you from hell.
 - And you...? By your unbelief, you have chosen to reject His efforts and go to hell anyway.

It Will Happen, Whether You Believe It Or Not.

- Rev. 1:7 - “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.”