

## The 8 Judgements

Last week we began to talk about Eternal Judgement. This week we are going to explore 8 different types of judgement that the Bible speaks of. It is important to be aware of these and clear about what we believe and why.

### What are the different judgements mentioned in scripture?

#### 1. The Judgement of our sins at Calvary

*1 Pet 2:24 "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."*

*2 Cor 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

*Gal 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole."*

*Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

#### Praise God we have a way out

*Jn 5:24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life **and will not be judged** but has crossed over from death to life.*

Atonement and Justification result in us bypassing the White Throne Judgement which we will discuss later.

This is the **atonement**. It is reconciliation of God and man. *Set at one with.*

To **justify** is to declare righteous. *Just as if I'd never sinned.* Justification is an act of God whereby He pronounces a sinner to be righteous because of that sinner's faith in Christ.

So what type of judgement do we as believer's face? It's this next one.

#### 2. The Judgement of the Saints

*2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

#### This is not for condemnation but a judgement for rewards.

*1 Cor 3:11-15 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, 13 their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. 14 If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. 15 If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.*

**It is important to understand how God deals with His children. 1 Pet 4:16 talks about judgement beginning in God's household. It is stated just after giving hope from the judgment at Calvary. It is fatherhood judgment as opposed to the judgment of criminals. It is like how a judge can sentence criminals but still has to discipline his children at home.**

*1 Pet 4:16b – 18 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. 17 For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 And,*

*"If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"*

*1 Pet 4:14-16a 14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or*

even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

2 Tim 4:8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

**The judgement of the Saints is the judgement seat of Christ, where we receive rewards and this is something we can look forward to.**

Rev 22:12 Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done.

### 3. The Judgement of Israel

Throughout scripture we see God releasing judgement and mercy on Israel. They were judged when they turned away from Him and began to worship other gods. God allowed the Assyrians and Babylonians to conquer Israel and take its people into exile. We see this in the books of Kings and Chronicles, as well as in the prophetic books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. *Malachi 4:1-3 - "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire," says the LORD Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act," says the LORD Almighty.*

With regards to the God's judgement of Israel in the Last Days, there are a few major contrasting views:

**Preterist view:** In this view, most of the prophecies with regards to Israel and her judgements have already been fulfilled in the first century, particularly in the events surrounding the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70. So ancient Israel finds its fulfilment or continuation in the Church. Thus, the judgment of Israel is seen as a historical event rather than a future event. It comes from the Latin word "praeter" meaning past or beyond. Some people view this as a very naturalist perspective but many hold that it is very valid, considering what occurred in AD70. Some may probably see a double application of the prophecy.

**Dispensationalist view:** This view sees Israel as a distinct entity in God's plan, separate from the Church. According to this view, God will judge Israel in the last days as part of his plan to fulfil biblical prophecies regarding the restoration of Israel as a nation. The judgment will involve a time of tribulation and suffering, followed by the return of Christ to establish his kingdom on earth. This view is characterised by the belief that Israelites will return to Israel from where they have been spread out across the world. This is why some people don't like it when Christians take any and every promise for Israel and apply it to the Church.

**Covenantal view:** This view sees Israel and the Church as part of the same covenantal relationship with God. In this view, God's judgment of Israel will be a part of his overall judgment of humanity in the last days. Israel's rejection of Jesus as the Messiah will be seen as a sin like any other and will be judged accordingly.

**Replacement theology view:** This view holds that the Church has replaced Israel as God's chosen people, and that there is no special role for Israel in the end times. The judgment of Israel is seen as a historical event rather than a future event, and there is no expectation of a future restoration of Israel as a nation.

It's worth noting that there is a great deal of diversity and complexity within each of these views, and many variations and nuances can exist within them.

### 4. The Judgement of the Nations

*Ps 110:6 He will judge the nations, heaping up the dead and crushing the rulers of the whole earth.*

Throughout scripture we see how God would judge nations. Here are some examples:

**Egypt:** Egypt experienced judgment from God for enslaving the Israelites and refusing to let them go. God sent ten plagues upon Egypt, culminating in the death of all the firstborn in the land. We see this in Exodus chapters 7-12.

**Babylon:** Babylon was judged by God for its arrogance and pride, as well as for its treatment of the Israelites. God used the Medes and Persians to conquer Babylon. This was prophesied in the book of Isaiah (Isaiah 13:17-22) and fulfilled in the book of Daniel (Daniel 5:30-31).

**Assyria:** The nation of Assyria was judged by God for its cruelty and violence towards other nations. God used the Babylonians to conquer Assyria and destroy its capital city of Nineveh. This is prophesied in the book of Nahum.

**The direction which a nation takes is often determined by the choices its people make.** The verses below highlight this truth.

*Prov 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.*

As you read this remember that the word “woe” is a word of judgement.

*Is 10:1-3 Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those who issue oppressive decrees, 2 to deprive the poor of their rights and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people, making widows their prey and robbing the fatherless. 3 What will you do on the day of reckoning, when disaster comes from afar? To whom will you run for help? Where will you leave your riches?*

## **5. The Judgement of Cities**

*Luke 10:10-13 But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 11 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.' 12 I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. 13 "Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.*

**Cities have a specific characteristic and state. They will be judged based on this.**

*Ps 55:9-11 Confuse the wicked, O Lord, confound their speech, for I see violence and strife in the city. 10 Day and night they prowl about on its walls; malice and abuse are within it. 11 Destructive forces are at work in the city; threats and lies never leave its streets.*

*Amos 3:6 When a trumpet sounds in a city, do not the people tremble? When disaster comes to a city, has not the LORD caused it?*

**Jesus said the woes to cities and some of them don't exist anymore. They are in ruins today.**

*Genesis 19:24-25 Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens.*

*Ezekiel 16:49-50 49 "Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy. 50 They were haughty and did detestable things before me. Therefore I did away with them as you have seen.*

It is important to understand that cities have personas. Cities can have a culture of generosity. A lot of the judgement a city experiences is also here and now. Is your city age-friendly?

## **6. The Judgement of the Wicked**

*Rev 20:11-15 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had*

*done. 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.*

This is called the White Throne Judgement.

## **7. The Judgement of Angels**

*Jude 6 And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their proper dwelling—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.*

This could be speaking of the initial rebellion of a third of the angels from heaven along with Lucifer. It could also be referring to the angels “sons of God” who left their abode and had relations with the daughters of men and produced the Nephilim (fallen ones, giants) – See Genesis 6:4 just before God decided to send the flood. Others believe that the readers of Jude were exposed to extra biblical books such as Enoch that have many references to God judging the angels.

### **Trespassing in the spirit has serious consequences**

*1 Cor 6:3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life!*

It is not clear whether these are fallen angels or demons, who will face Christ's judgment in the end (2 Peter 2:4; Jude 1:6) or the un-fallen angels who still serve God? The point is that those who are in Christ will share His authority and participate in some form of His judgment. This should impact how we judge small matters today. That is our destiny.

## **8. The Judgement of Satan**

### **Satan is consigned to eternal punishment in the lake of burning sulfur**

*Revelation 20:7–10 When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—and to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. 9 They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. 10 And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*