

IMPORTANCE OF JUSTICE, JUDGMENT, HEAVEN & HELL:

The Scriptures speak clearly about the Justice of God, the final Judgment of God, the eternal destinations of Heaven and Hell.

ETERNAL DESTINATION OF SATAN, DEMONS, & THOSE OUTSIDE OF CHRIST:

How will eternity be for Satan?

Rev. 20:1-10

What will be the destination of those who reject Christ?

John 3:17.

What do you think of when you hear the word Satan?

How should knowing that Satan is out to destroy us and others motivate us?

Rev. 12:7-12; John 10:10

Why do you think Satan continues to rebel? Could he repent? Demons?

Power of God vs. Power of Satan. Are they two opposing forces? (First principle concept)

Why are we scared of Satan?

SATAN: 1 Chrn 21:1; Job 1:6-12; att 4:1-11; Matt 8:28-31; Luke 22:3-6; 2 Corn. 2:10-11; Heb 2:14-15; Rev. 12:9; Rev 20:10

Do you underestimate Satan?

FORGIVENESS AND JUDGEMENT:

How do you envision the Day of Judgment?

There is a day when all things will be known. How does that make you feel?

Luke 12:2

JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST (THE BEMA)

- The biggest question in my opinion about the judgment is - are there a series of judgments or do all the judgments described take place at one time? What do you think? Is there one Judgment or a series of Judgments? Are there different Judgment seats? What is the White Throne of judgment? What about all the books we are to be judged from? What about the Judgment Seat of Christ? What about the separation of Sheep and Goats? How are we judged by our Works? How are we judged by the book of life?
- Clearly there is a FINAL JUDGMENT. We have defined that we have the current Heaven and Hell...so is there judgment upon our death immediately? Somehow we end up in either Heaven or Hell...how? Is this different from the Judgment seat spoken of in the concluding chapters of Revelation?

- On Final Judgment we see all things revealed. Final Judgment is about God’s justice in judging right and wrong. The book of life is there...so is the tree of life once judged!
- Answers: It is not clear. My position will be that there is a judgment upon death...whether that is a throne it is uncertain...not sure which judgment addresses this...but something happens. God separates the redeemed from the unredeemed upon death. Then there appears to be a “DAY OF THE LORD” a “FINAL JUDGMENT” a “WHITE THRONE JUDGMNENT” on the final judgment there will be several judgments – one is our eternal destination and the other is rewards based on deed...all things will be made known - good and bad. This is simply an attempt to make sense of the Judgment.
- THE JUDGE – it is clearly Christ. (2 Timothy 4:1) (Rev. 20:11)
- We will all face JUDGMENT – “It is appointed unto man to die and then the judgment.” Unbelievers face punishment. Believers face rewards and eternity with God.

JUDGMENTS DISTINGUISHED IN THE SCRIPTURES:

1. God will judge the nations...a universal judgment of mankind...the entire world.
2. God will judge the angels.
3. God will judge the unredeemed or unsaved. The dead without Christ will face the “Great White Throne” of final judgment.
4. God will judge the redeemed of God, those saved. This judgment is more of an evaluation of deeds/works that is associated with awards in Heaven.

1. JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS: Sheep and Goats Matthew 25:31-46

The nations before the throne of God: Separate the Sheep and the Goats.

Does this take place upon our death?
Is this prior to the Millennial reign of Christ?

I don’t know. But clearly Jesus is speaking of Judging the Nations. He separates those who know Him (Sheep) and those who do not (Goats).

2. JUDGMENT OF ANGELS:

The angels have a separate judgment.
Those already cast out are judged in some sort...some are in the abyss already, some are tormented because they are so evil, some are free to engage in spiritual warfare.
Lucifer clearly has a final day of reckoning...a final judgment.

2 Peter 2:4
Jude 6
1 Corinthians 6:3

3. JUDGMENT OF THE REDEEMED:

BEMA – means “step” (EDT) or a platform upon which judicial proceedings are conducted.

Different uses or applications of the Judgment of God (BEMA): Resources EDT & Life God Rewards.

- **2 Corinthians 5:10 – “Bema” of Christ**

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may be repaid for what he has done in the body, whether good or bad.”

Judgment seat is a place of account and compensation. Authority, justice, and reward belong to Jesus.

- **Romans 14:10**

10 But you, why do you criticize your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

Final judgment that says we are accountable for how we treat one another.

- **Romans 14:12**

12 So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

At the “BEMA” our works will be revealed for what they are. Our deeds will be credited to us. Not the same as the “Final Judgment” or great “WHITE THRONE.” This is clearly different...so the BEMA has different “STEPS”...or Judgments.

- **1 Corinthians 3:12-15**

12 If anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw, 13 each one's work will become obvious, for the day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire; the fire will test the quality of each one's work. 14 If anyone's work that he has built survives, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned up, it will be lost, but he will be saved; yet it will be like an escape through fire.

You cannot lose eternity in Heaven, but you can suffer the loss of not gaining rewards from Christ. (THIS PASSAGE STANDS ALONE BUT IS SUPPORTED THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE>)

The primary purpose of the ***Judgment Seat of Christ is to reward***, not punish. (THIS IS HOW THE BEMA “Judgment” Seat is different than the WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT. ***It is about gaining God’s blessed rewards.*** We should look at this Judgment seat (Bema) as a great day of reward. Not what we will lose.

- Matt 5:10-12; Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs. 11 "Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of Me. 12 Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
- Revelation 22:12 – Jesus reward is with Him to give to everyone accordingly.
- John 14:2-3 – Mansions, being built even as we speak.

4. JUDGMENT OF THE UNREDEEMED:

The White Throne (Revelation 20:11) as the judgment is the judgment of our eternal destination. For the unredeemed it is not death as in complete destruction...but damnation, punishment, gnashing of teeth...etc.

BOOK OF LIFE: Revelation 20:11-15

Those in the book of life are with God. Those not in the book of life are cast into the Lake of Fire.

Acts 17:30 - 31 – there is a fixed day of judgment.

Romans 2:5 – Day of wrath in which God’s righteous judgment will be executed.

“WHITE THRONE” Rev. 20:11-21:5

What does this mean to the saved? What does Judgment at the White Throne mean to us?

What will the Judgment seat of Christ look like do you think?

(All will come before the Judgment seat of Christ...so we should ponder this.)

Matt. 25:31-40

Sheep and Goats? What does this mean? Which are you?

Why would God replay our lives at Judgment day?

(Power of forgiveness, depth of his mercy and grace, our unworthiness, etc. What do you think the purpose is?)

Do you have any concern about Judgment Day?

What will matter most on that day?

Knowing Death and Judgment Day will come to all of us...what actions do you need to take today to secure your future with the Lord and your date with Judgment?

JUDGMENT:

1 Sam 2:10; Ro. 14:9-13; 1 Cor. 11:27:34; Heb. 4:12; 1 Pet. 1:17; 2 Pet. 2:4-10; Rev. 6:9-11; Rev. 14:6-7; Rev. 19:11-15.

JUSTICE AND HELL:

Why would a loving God send people to Hell? John 3:16-18; Romans 1:18-20

What is your concept of Hell? What will it be like?

Do you know anyone who has chosen Hell? Choosing Hell? What can we do?

Will good people be in Hell?

What do you think the worst thing will be about Hell?

2 Peter 2:4-14

Justice demands a verdict of guilty and justice demands some form of payment...

Justice means that our sin demands the verdict of guilty and the payment of eternal death and damnation was paid with the blood of Christ.

When you think of people who deserve Hell...who comes to mind? Do you?

REALITY OF HELL:

Mark 9:43; Mark 9:48; Luke 16:22-24; Luke 16:28; Rev. 14:9-11; Rev. 20:10;

Hell is a literal place. No other way of thinking about it from a Scriptural view.

Some have argued if God is love how could He condemn anyone to Hell?

- John 3:17-18 – God condemns no one...they condemn themselves.
- God's love demands justice. A loving God is a just God. To not serve justice is an unloving act.

Issue of Annihilationist – God just annihilates them so they no longer exist after punishment. The problem is that Hell is established as a place without end. It is intended to be a place of conscience awareness.

Why would God create Hell? A place of total separation from Him?

Matt. 10:26:33

Matt. 5:29-30; 10:28; 16:18;18:9; Luke 16:19-28; Rev. 1:17-18

How can Hell motivate us to tell others about Jesus?

What is the only way to escape Hell?

What scares you about Hell?

The final judgment brings all things to a finale...justice is served for all the evil done. It places God as the righteous judge before all creation.

Bottom line: Whatever God has ordained...is just and right. Hell is just and Hell is right. We can try to argue about it or say it is wrong or try to say it doesn't exist...but it does.