

## Christ's Message of Redemption



## Judgment and Eternity

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It is difficult for our finite minds to comprehend eternity, but before the creation of the Earth God already existed and He will continue to exist after the end of time on Earth. When Christ comes again everyone will face his Creator, the Almighty God, to give an account of his actions while on Earth.

How great it will be to have Jesus, our Advocate, beside us on that day. He will speak up on behalf of His obedient, faithful disciples because: "We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:4) Then God will welcome us into His presence. We will be so overjoyed that we will sing His praises and give thanks forever. Christ died so we could live in Heaven where there will be no fear, no sorrow, no pain, no weeping and no darkness, but only love, peace, truth and righteousness, forever and ever without end.

There is another group of people. They are those who will not have that advocate on their side. What about them? They lived in rebellion satisfying their human desires and refusing to obey or even acknowledge the presence of Almighty God. "But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. God 'will give to each person according to what he has done'. To those who by persistence in doing good, seek glory, honor, and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; but glory, honor, and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile." (Romans 2:1-10)

"But now he (Jesus) has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him." (Hebrews 9:26b-28)

### What Will Happen At The End Of Time

Let the Word of God tell us in passages that deal with the Second Coming of Jesus.

#### 1. The Lord will appear [a spectacular thing]

"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, and the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God..." (2 Thessalonians 4:16a). Every human being living on the face of the earth, whenever that day is, will hear that trumpet and our attention will be suddenly captured on a moment's notice.

#### 2. The dead will be raised

"The dead in Christ will be raised first." (2 Thessalonians 4:16b) That is corroborated in I Corinthians 15:52 "in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable." When Jesus comes again, the graves are going to be emptied all of those that we have known.

### **3. The living are going to be changed**

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep (i.e. die), but we will all be changed - in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality." (1 Corinthians 15:51)

These first three things are all going to happen practically simultaneously:

- a) A trumpet will sound
- b) The voice of the archangel
- c) The dead will come out of the graves, and the living at that time will be caught in the air with them, all of humanity, from the beginning of time.

### **4. A Great Separation—Judgment**

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep [the righteous] on his right hand and the goats [the wicked] on his left." (Matthew 25:31)

### **5. Inheritance for the Righteous**

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.'" (Matthew 25:34)

### **6. Sentence Pronounced on the Disobedient**

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'" (Matthew 25:41)

John writes (having seen that revelation), "And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and the 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." (Revelation 20:12)

### **7. The destruction of the earth**

"The day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens<sup>1</sup> will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare." (2 Peter 3:10)

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<sup>1</sup> [The Aerial or atmospheric heavens, as "birds of heaven" or "clouds of heaven and the Sidereal heavens, the region of the "sun," "moon," and "stars]

Time on earth has ended. It is too late to accept God's gift of salvation. Accept Him NOW as "Today is the day of salvation."

Questions

1. At Judgment Day Christians have an advocate or attorney, Christ, beside them to explain that His blood through immersion into him [baptized into His death] has washed away the stains of sin.

True  False

2. Satan, that rebellious angel, stands ready to welcome all rebellious ones who refused Christ's invitation.

True  False

3. Man created in God's image is without excuse as God's eternal power and deity are clearly perceived in things God made.

True

False

4. When Jesus returns at the end of time on earth, He will send angels to remove from his Kingdom evildoers and throw them into the furnace of fire.

True  False

5. The furnace of fire or Eternal fire was prepared for the Devil and his angels.

True  False

#### Answers to Questions

1. True

2. True

3. True

4. True

5.. True