

INTRODUCTION

1. 1T 5:24-25 common destiny for every man: Final Judgment [FJ] - Hb 9:27.
 - i. v24 - already *evident*: "obvious beforehand" before FJ
 - ii. v25 - so too - *good deeds* - will be evident [Mat 25:44]
2. Rv 11:18 FJ: punishments & rewards. We are all in this text.

1st: Men Rage Against the Wrath of God

1. *the nations were enraged* - [Ps 2:1-6]. Rm 1:30 *haters of God*. Lex Talionis: *Your wrath came to enraged* wrathful men. What angers men about God? His judgment [2 Tim 3:4].
2. Already evident - Rm 1:18ff .
3. A future wrath: hell = eternal anger

2nd: The Time for the Resurrection and Judgment Has Come

1. Having lived enraged against God, *the time* for FJ arrives.
2. General resurrection: *the dead* - Dan 12:2; Rv 20:12-13
3. All men will be judged by Jesus
 - i. Jn 5:26-29 *the hour is coming* = Rv 11:18 *the time came* - all the dead raised then judged by Jesus according to deeds
 - ii. 2 Cor 5:10 *recompense* => just treatment - [Rm2:6-8]
4. Rv 11:18 emphasizes *judgment* [Jn 5:29] - *judges* => wrath on wicked men.

3rd: The Time To Reward Christ's Servants Has Come

1. *and* [also] *the time to reward* - Jesus motivates us w/ fear of hell & rewards.
 - i. Jesus' parables: stewards to give an account
 - ii. 1C 3:7 our planting & watering are how God causes growth [1C 15:10]
 - a. God's grace precedes & makes our good works effective
 - b. works evidence living union with Christ
 - iii. 1C 3:8-15 who is being rewarded? God's fellow-laborers
2. Christ's *servants*: Rv 1:1; 2:20; 6:11; 7:3; 10:7; 15:3; 19:2,5; 19:10; 22:9; 22:3; 22:6.
3. *prophets & saints* - Rv 16:6 wrongly judged in world; 18:20 celebrate destruction of Babylon; 18:24 having been martyred in Babylon
4. *and* [even: that, is] *those who fear Your name* - opposite of *enraged*

4th: The Time to Punish Unbelievers Has Come

1. Panoramic - all men: *the small & the great* = "merism"
 - i. *small & great* - 13:16-17; 19:5; 19:18.
 - ii. 20:12 *the dead* - resurrected & standing before Judge Jesus
2. What works? They *destroy the earth*. Context: praise Creator, here are men who have lived lives *destroying* creation, the *earth*.
 - i. *destroy* = ruin, corrupt, defile, pollute = synonym for death
 - ii. *earth-dwellers* who hate the earth & the Creator
3. Demonically energized corruption of creation
 - i. "Climate change"? Catastrophes as judgment; common curse.
 - ii. Man's stewardship of creation.
 - iii. Hope for resurrection & glorified cosmos.
4. Lex Talionis - *destroy*: God *destroys* those who *destroy* creation. Those who do not honor the Creator or His creation are not in fellowship w/ the Savior whose salvation is ultimately cosmic.

Applic #1: Be Alert To and Repent of Any Anger Against God

1. Anger expresses our judgment against someone. Who are we to be condemn & be angry at God?
2. Active -> blasphemous rebellion; passive -> despondent morbidity
3. Align conscience / God's judgment. You are justified in Christ - 11:17 *give thanks*: habitual worship, praise, faith, hope, love
4. Gently come alongside people who calm a "right" to be angry at God & show them the justice of God - the cross or hell. Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?

Applic #2: Give Proper Place to the Necessity of Good Works in the Xn Life

1. LBC 16 - works evidence life. Beware of easy believism's antinomianism & legalism's self-righteousness. Be zealous for good works as evidence of living union w/ Christ.
2. Christ motivates us w/ prospect of rewards: *well done good & faithful servant - your toil is not in vain* [1C15:54].