

Hebrews 6:1-3

Of Judgment

We all know that the bible only has one verse about judgment. "Judge not lest ye be judged"... at least that's what the world thinks. But judgment is woven throughout the scripture and is an integral part of the faith. The scripture speaks over 500 times about judgment, 196 of those are in the New Testament... it is NOT something to be dismissed with a tee shirt or a church sign. Judgment is both our responsibility AND a coming appointment with Jesus Christ Himself... we NEED to rightly understand this complex and important issue.

I. SCRIPTURAL JUDGMENT

has 2 basic divisions

- a. Judgment in this life - temporal, can be rectified
- b. Judgment in the next - eternal, cannot be altered or rectified

c. They are connected

- i. How we live this life can incur temporal judgment, or it can be delayed until the next
- ii. All sin will be judged
- iii. Someone pays the price
- iv. Wages of sin is death.
- v. God is always sitting in judgment on the wicked –

Psalm 7.9-13

II. CHURCH JUDGES

a. The church has a responsibility to judge within herself. All who name the name of Christ **MUST** be subject to the judgment of the church, the church **MUST** judge collectively. Properly executed judgment will unite us. This is not the divisive whispering of judgment around the back door, but the public and united judgment of the people of God –

Corinthians 6.1-6

1 Corinthians 1.10

- b. If we will not act in accordance to our responsibility, God will judge us temporally. It can be with sickness, tribulation, loss even death.

1Corinthians 11.27-34

Hebrews 12.3-11

- c. If a man is walking in wickedness and is not judged by God it is not a good sign for the condition of his soul...

Hebrews 10.26-31

- d. But if we will act in wisdom and judge within ourselves we can be spared the temporal judgment of God.

1 Corinthians 11:31 (NKJV)

31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

III. GOD JUDGES

NO ONE escapes the second.

2Corinthians 5.10,
Hebrews 9.27

- a. The resurrection of Jesus is the confirmation of both our forgiveness and the coming judgment.

Acts 17.29-31

- b. Part of the work of the Holy Spirit is to convince men of this fact

John 16.5-11

- c. We will be judged for what we have seen and heard and how we responded to the truth given.

Matthew 11. 20-24

- d. We will be judged by the God who is always righteous, The Christ who died for the sheep, the spirit who calls and seals us - and the judgement at that time will not be able to be reversed or altered in any way.

Revelation 20.11-15

2Corinthians 5.9-11

IV. JUDGMENT AND EVANGELISM

a. This fact should ignite our passion to proclaim the gospel. For we ought not wish to see anyone perish...

2Timothy 4.1-5

b. It can be hard to understand but God will always do what is right... and the final punishment of the wicked IS righteous...

2Thessalonians 1.3-10

V. Response –

So what can we do about this impending reality?

a. Make sure of our own soul

b. Be faithful to live out our faith so that we are not a stumbling block

c. Be careful of each other and be willing to hold one another accountable to call them to repentance and so be fence around the severe judgments from God

James 5.19-20

d. Be vocal and persistent in our proclamation of the gospel. God calls us to call them to repent.