

## **ARE YOU READY FOR THE JUDGMENT DAY?**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

A few years ago, after 9 months of hearing evidence to determine if O.J. Simpson was guilty of killing Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman, the Jury announced that Mr. Simpson was not guilty of the crimes of murder.

Although Mr. Simpson was acquitted of murder, a lot of people, and even some members of the jury, still believe that he is guilty. They believe that O. J. got away with murder and that he escaped his due punishment.

I personally do not know if he got away with murder, however, I do know that a Day is coming when all truth will be disclosed.

- (Ecclesiastes. 12:14) “For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.”

A time is coming when we will all have to stand before the judgment seat of Christ and be judged for what we did in this life. We will not have the luxury to hire the best defense team to defend us; instead, we will stand before the Lord with our lives and secrets laid bare.

### **WE NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR THE JUDGMENT DAY.**

**THIS MORNING, I WILL PRESENT FOUR IMPORTANT POINTS ON THE SUBJECT OF THE JUDGMENT.**

#### **FIRST, THE JUDGMENT DAY IS A CERTAINTY.**

1. Here are three passages that teach that the Judgment Day is coming.
  - (Acts 17:31) “For He has set a day when He will judge the world with justice by the man He has appointed.”
  - (Heb. 9:27) “Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment...”
  - (2 Cor. 5:10) “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.”
2. There is no escaping the Day of Judgment. It is an appointment that we all must attend. We will not be able to call up Jesus and give Him an excuse on why we can't make it. We cannot call in sick. We must all attend.

3. Some people will be excited on that day and others will be sad. But the Judgment day is coming.

## **SECOND, JESUS WILL BE THE JUDGE ON THAT DAY.**

1. The Bible teaches that Jesus will be the judge.
  - (John. 5:22, 27) "The Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son...And He has given Him authority to judge because He is the Son of Man."
  - (Acts 17:31) "For He has set a day when He will judge the world with justice by the man He has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising Him from the dead."
2. As I recall, many TV commentators said that Judge Lance Ito made several mistakes during the trial. However, the Ultimate Supreme Court Judge Jesus will make no mistakes. His verdict is true and accurate. His decision is final.

### **ILLUSTRATION:**

Once baseball umpire, Babe Pinelli, called Babe Ruth out on strikes. Well needless to say that Babe Ruth argued with the call and said, "There's 40,000 people here who know that last one was a ball, tomato head."

Pinelli replied: Maybe so, but mine is the only decision that counts.

3. There is no negotiating with Jesus. Our eternal destiny was sealed by the things we did while in the body (2 Corinthians 5:10). There are no second chances. There are no appeals.

## **THIRD, WHAT WILL HAPPEN ON THE JUDGMENT DAY?**

⚡ The Day of Judgment will begin with the Second Coming of Jesus.

According to (1 Thessalonians. 4:16-18; and 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9), during the Second Coming...

- Christ and His angels will return visible, with a loud command.
- There will be an unmistakable cry from an angel.
- There will be a trumpet call such as has never been heard.
- Believers in Christ who are dead will rise from their graves.

- Believers who are alive will be caught up with them in the clouds to meet Christ to be with Him forever.

**2. Next, Christ will sit on His throne and all nations will gather before Him.**

- (Matthew. 25:31-33) “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.”

**3. Before the judgment begins, the earth and sky are destroyed by fire.**

- (Revelations 20:11-12) “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from His presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened.”
- (2 Peter 3:10) “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare (or burned up).

**4. After that destruction, the people will be judged.**

- (Revelations 20:12-13) “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. “

During the judging period, we read that there are two or more books that reveal the history of our lives.

The Book of Life is said to have the names of people who will receive eternal life. The books are the records of our human deeds.

Here is at least one thing that we will be judged on:

We will be judged on the deeds we done while on earth.

- (Romans 2:6-7) “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.”
- (2 Corinthians. 5:10) “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”

- **(Matthew 25:31) Jesus made it clear that it was our works or service to others that will help us enter into eternal life.**

**Our works will be investigated in this judgment to distinguish how we lived our lives while on earth. We will be reviewed and examined.**

**☞ After the judgment period, we will witness the greatest separation that the world has ever seen.**

**In (Matthew 25:31f), Jesus after gathering all nations before Him, proceeded to separate the people. He put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left. The sheep are the righteous people and the goats are the unrighteous. Then, Jesus proceeded to tell the people why He was about to send some of them to eternal punishment and why some were going to eternal life. He gave the people an explanation for what He was about to do.**

**Some people are sent away to eternal life where there will be no crying or pain, no hunger or thirst, and where they will live with God forever.**

**However, some people will be sent to eternal punishment—Hell. A place which is sometime referred to as the Lake of Burning Sulfur, and Lake of Fire. It is a place that Jesus calls in (Matthew 5:22; Mark. 9:43) Gehenna. This is the final and eternal state of the wicked after the last Judgment. Being in Gehenna or Hell is like being burned alive. A place of agony, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. A place of unquenchable fire. A place of torment!**

### **LASTLY, ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE JUDGMENT DAY?**

**I must tell you the truth...If you die or if the Lord comes back and you are not a true believer, then chances are you will spend eternity in Hell.**

**If you have not put your faith in Jesus Christ and not been willing to repent (turn away from your sins), or confess Him before others.**

- **Jesus said in (Mark 16:16) “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”**
- **Romans 10:9, “That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”**

**Perhaps some of you here this morning are not born again Christians. I appeal to you in the name of Jesus Christ become a Christian today. You need the blood of Jesus to cover your sins. You need Jesus in your life.**

## **ILLUSTRATION:**

**Steve Winger from Lubbock, Texas, writes about his last college test—a final in a logic class known for its difficult exams:**

**To help us on our test, the professor told us we could bring as much information to the exam as we could fit on a piece of notebook paper. Most students crammed as many facts as possible on their 20 x 30 centimeter sheet of paper.**

**But one student walked into class, put a piece of notebook paper on the floor, and had an advanced logic student stand on the paper. The advanced logic student told him everything he needed to know. He was the only student to receive an “A.”**

**The ultimate final exam will come when we stand before God and He asks, “Why should I let you in?” On our own we cannot pass the exam. Our creative attempts to earn eternal life fall far short. But we need Jesus to stand in for us.**

## **CONCLUSION:**

**If you are not a Christian, you ought to be, and you can be one this morning. Your eternal destination depends on it.**

**Maybe you are a Christian, and lately you have not been living a faithful and fruitful life for the Lord. You may need to respond to the Lords Invitation for prayer.**

**Possibly, there may be someone who needs to confess their sins before God. You may have been living in secret sin, trying to hide it from God and your friends. But God’s hand has been laying heavy upon you and you are ready to confess.**

**We are going to sing the song “Are you ready for the Judgment Day” If you do not think that you are ready, then please respond and come forward for prayer.**

### **THERE’S A GREAT DAY COMING**

**There’s a great day coming, a great day coming;  
There’s a great day coming by and by,  
When the saints and the sinners shall be parted right and left,  
Are you ready for that day to come?**

*Refrain*

*Are you ready? Are you ready?  
Are you ready for the judgment day?  
Are you ready? Are you ready?  
For the judgment day?*

**There's a bright day coming, a bright day coming;  
There's a bright day coming by and by.  
But its brightness shall only come to them that love the Lord.  
Are you ready for that day to come?**

*Refrain*

*Are you ready? Are you ready?  
Are you ready for the judgment day?  
Are you ready? Are you ready?  
For the judgment day?*

**There's a sad day coming, a sad day coming;  
There's a sad day coming by and by,  
When the sinner shall hear his doom: "Depart, I know you not!"  
Are you ready for that day to come?**

*Refrain*

*Are you ready? Are you ready?  
Are you ready for the judgment day?  
Are you ready? Are you ready?  
For the judgment day?*