

THE DAY OF JUDGMENT

(Revelation 20:11-15)

Intro.

1. As we close the year of my preaching, we want to consider the day of judgment.
 2. In life, we know that we often pay the penalty for things we do that are sinful.
 - a. It may be something relatively harmless, like a spanking from our parents.
 - b. It may be something far greater like a pregnancy, a death, or a jail sentence (Romans 13:1-2).
 3. Sometimes, though, we may never pay a single penalty for our sins in this life.
 - a. The Psalmist talked about this in Psalm 73.
 - b. He looked at sinful people all around him and it seemed that they were living it up with no fear of punishment.
 - c. Of course, he came to understand that they were all going to pay for their sins one day, the day of judgment.
 4. Long ago, Moses told the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh that their sins would find them out if they failed to help their brethren take the promised land.
 5. For us, we may get away with everything we've ever done in this life, but one day our sins will be found out and pointed out to us.
 6. Then it will be too late to do anything about them.
 7. What we want to do in this sermon is focus on the day of judgment.
- I. There will be a day of reckoning.**
- a. Matthew 12:36-37.
 - i. The word "account" is the idea of reckoning.
 - ii. It means, "to settle accounts with, to judge; to give an answer or explanation in reference to judgment."
 - b. Jesus was very plain that this will take place.
 - i. The parable of the talents teaches this fact.
 - ii. Matthew 25:14-19.
 - iii. Reckoneth is the same Greek word as account in Matthew 12:36.
 - c. The reality is, every person will have this time of reckoning or giving an account (Romans 14:10-12: there is our word again in verse 12).
 - d. Notice what Peter wrote by inspiration (1 Peter 4:5 – there's our word again).
 - e. There is no doubt there will be a judgment day on which an account will be given.
- II. Every person will keep this appointment.**
- a. How many appointments do you have in a month?
 - b. How many of them have you missed?
 - c. What's worse is when the doctor's office calls and cancels the appointment.

- d. The day of judgment will be kept by us and the One who will judge us.
 - i. Hebrews 9:27- appointed means reserved for one, awaiting him.
 - ii. The wise preacher wrote... (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).
- e. Not one person will miss this appointment.

III. The One to whom we will give account.

- a. Romans 2:16.
 - i. God is our Judge (Revelation 20:12).
 - ii. Jesus showed Himself to be God and He is our Judge (John 5:17-18; 2 Timothy 4:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).
- b. The gospel will be the standard of judgment (John 12:48; Revelation 20:12).
 - i. For the saved, this will be a great day of joy (Matthew 25:21, 34; 2 Thessalonians 1:10).
 - ii. For the lost, this will be a sad day, a day of wrath (Romans 2:5; Hebrews 10:31; Acts 24:25).
- c. All of us will stand before the righteous Judge Whom God the Father appointed (Acts 17:30-31).

IV. The things for which we will give account.

- a. We will give account for how we responded to the gospel (John 12:48).
 - i. Acts 17:11.
 - ii. When we reject the gospel, we deem ourselves unworthy of eternal life (Acts 13:44-46).
- b. We will give account for our secrets.
 - i. Ecclesiastes 12:14; 1 Corinthians 4:5.
 - ii. There is nothing that can be hidden from God (Hebrews 4:13).
- c. We will give account for how we used our bodies (2 Corinthians 5:10).
 - i. For this reason, we can't let sin keep us in bondage (Romans 6:12, 16).
 - ii. The only way this will be accomplished is with great self-control (1 Corinthians 9:27).
- d. We will give account of our deeds.
 - i. Revelation 20:12 – our deeds will be compared to the standard.
 - ii. These works are the ones that God ordained that we do (Ephesians 2:10).
 - iii. Jesus talked about these works (John 9:4; John 6:27-29).
 - iv. We are commanded to abound in good works (1 Corinthians 15:58).
 - v. The reason for this is that our good works bring glory to God (Matthew 5:16).
- e. We will give account of the words we speak.
 - i. Matthew 12:36-37.
 - ii. Thayer's defines the word "idle" as "of things from which no profit is derived, although they can and ought to be productive".
 - iii. Instead of idle speaking, we are to be examples to others in the way we speak and use our words (1 Timothy 4:12).

- iv. We know how destructive the tongue can be and we must seek to tame it as best we can.
- f. We will give account of how we used our abilities.
 - i. The parable of the talents teaches this as well (Matthew 25:15).
 - ii. We are stewards of all of God's blessings and stewards are to be faithful (1 Corinthians 4:2).

Conclusion

1. Read Matthew 25:31-46.
2. There is a day of reckoning coming and every person will keep this appointment.
3. We will give an account to the Righteous Judge for how we responded to the gospel, for our secrets, how we used our bodies, our deeds, the words we spoke, and the how we used our abilities.
4. If that great day were to take place in the next moment, what words would you hear from the Judge: enter in or depart I never knew you?

This sermon came from an unknown source.