

# The Judgement Seat of Christ

What, Who, When, Where, How, Why?

## Introduction

Of all the questions concerning the end times the one in which most of us have the greatest interest, and least knowledge is the Final Judgements of God. There are 5 judgements in the Bible 1) Believer's Sin/Salvation - passed from death unto life 2) Believer's works 3) Israel 4) Tribulation on Nations 5) White Throne Judgement.

There are two final judgements: The Great White Throne Judgement and the Judgement Seat of Christ. People often get them confused but it is important that we see and understand that they are two separate and distinct judgements. You will be involved in each.

The question of when and where are superfluous. It is more important to KNOW that they will be than to conclusively debate when and where. More important to the individual believer is the Who, What, Why of the judgements.

## The Great White Throne Judgement

Revelation 20:11

11. 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. 12. 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. 13. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. 14. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

- Matthew 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.
- Matthew 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:
- Matthew 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Every living human that ever lived on the earth will be present at the Great White Throne Judgement. Death and hell will give up their dead.

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Song: "I Dreamed of the Great Judgment Morning"

## The Judgement Seat of Christ

Greek it is the BEMA seat of Christ - judge of the Olympic Games.

It is a raised place mounted by steps on which the judge sat and watched the games and handed out rewards.

- Romans 14:10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.
- 2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.
- I Corinthians 9:24-27 - Runners and fighters compete for prize
- Romans 14:10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall **all stand before the judgment seat** <968> of Christ.
- Romans 14:12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.
- 1 Peter 4:5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.
- 2 Corinthians 5:10 For **we must all appear before the judgment seat** <968> of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.
- I Corinthians 9: 24 Know ye not that they which **run in a race** run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.<sup>25</sup> And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. <sup>26</sup> I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: <sup>27</sup> But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a **castaway**.

Castaway - not standing the test, not approved , unfit, not genuine (as a coin)

- Hebrews 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
- Philippians 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

## I. The Shame

1. I John 2:28 Not ashamed before him at his coming
  2. I John 3:2 Be like him, see him as he is.
  3. I Cor. 15:52 We shall be changed.
  4. Revelation 3:18 Shame of your nakedness not appear
- I John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.
  - I John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
  - I Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
  - Revelation 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.
  - Revelation 21:4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes.

## II. The Tests

1. The Test of Foundations - Yet so as by fire - I Cor 3:13 Works burned up - I Cor 3:15 Suffer Loss - 1 Corinthians 3:15
2. Test of Motives - Matthew 6:1-6, 6:16-19 - Alms in secret, fasting in secret, The Lord himself will reward you openly.
3. Test of Stewardship
  - Stewardship Accounting - Luke 16:2 And he called him, and said unto him, How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward.
  - Shepherd Accounting - Hebrews 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that *is* unprofitable for you.
4. The Test of Words - Matthew 12:36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.
5. The Test of Witness - The terror of the Lord - 2 Corinthians 5:11 (8-11)  
Mark 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.
6. Test of the Word - Romans 3:2 ... because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.
  - 2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
  - James 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.
  - James 2:12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

### **III. The Prize**

Gold, Silver, and Precious Stones

1. Our testimony for Christ (Phil. 2:16).
2. Our suffering for Christ (1 Pet. 4:13).
3. Our faithfulness to Christ (Lk. 12:42-43; Rev. 2:10).
4. Our service for Christ (1 Cor. 3:8; Heb. 6:10).
5. Our generosity for Christ (2 Cor. 9:6; 1 Tim. 6:17-19).
6. Our use of time for Christ (Eph. 5:15-16; Col. 4:5).
7. Our exercise of spiritual gifts (Mt. 25:14-28; 1 Pet. 4:10).
8. Our self-discipline for Christ (1 Cor. 9:24-25).
9. Our leading of souls to Christ (1 Th. 2:19).

### **IV. The Crowns**

- Shepherd's Crown - I Peter 5:1-4
  - Soulwinner's Crown - Prov. 11:30, Daniel 12:3, I Thess 2:19
  - Sufferer's Crown - James 1:12, Matthew 5:10-12, Revelation 2:10 crown of life.
  - Victor's Crown - I Cor. 9:24-27
  - Watchman's Crown - 2 Timothy 4:8
1. Crown of Life - James 1:12
  2. Crown of Righteousness - 2 Timothy 4:8
  3. Crown Incorruptible - I Cor 9:25
  4. Crown of Rejoicing - I Thess 2:19
  5. Crown of Glory - I Peter 5:2-4

Throw their crowns - Rev. 4: 4, 11-12

**Thou Art Worthy!**

## Key G THE GREAT JUDGEMENT MORNING

(G) I dreamed that the Great Judgement (C) Morning,  
had (G) Dawned, and the trumpet had (D7) Blown,  
I (G) Dreamed that all nations had (C) Gathered,  
to (G) Judgement be- (D7) fore the White (G) Throne.  
From the throne came a bright shining (C) angel,  
and he (G) stood on the land and the (D7) Sea,  
and (G) swore with his hand raised to (C) heaven,  
that (G) time was no (D7) longer to (G) be.

### Chorus

And oh what weeping and (C) wailing,  
as the (G) lost were told of their (D7) fate,  
they (G) cried for the rocks and the (C) mountains,  
they (G) prayed, but their (D7) prayers were too (G) late.  
The rich man was there but his money,  
had melted and vanished away,  
A pauper stood there in the judgement,  
his debts were too many to pay.  
The great man was there, but his greatness,  
when death came, was left far behind,  
The angel that opened the records,  
no trace of his greatness could find.

Repeat chorus

The widow was there and the orphan,  
God heard and remembered their cries,  
no sorrow in heaven forever,  
God wiped all the tears from their eyes.  
The gambler was there and the drunkard,  
and they who had sold them the drink,  
with people who gave them the license,  
together in hell they did sink.

Repeat chorus

The mortal man to the judgement,  
but self righteousness would not do,  
for the men who had crucified Jesus,  
had passed off as mortal men too.  
And the souls that had put off salvation,  
not tonight I'll get saved by and by,  
no time now to think of religion,  
at last they had found time to die.

Repeat chorus