

The Final Judgments

(When God's Court Is in Session)

Everybody has a court date with God. Every person will stand before Him and give an account for every bad attitude, every wrong word spoken, every act of misbehavior, every moment of neglecting or refusing to do right, and most importantly, of their decision to reject or receive God's free gift of salvation in Jesus Christ. *THE most important preparation that any person can make in this lifetime is that of being ready to stand before the Judge of judges. Are you ready?*

The "Bema" - The Judgment Seat of Christ - Believer's Rewarded

2 Corinthians 5:10 NLT

¹⁰ For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 NLT

¹⁰ Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. ¹¹ For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ.

¹² Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. ¹³ But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value. ¹⁴ If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵ But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames.

The Great White Throne Judgment - The Nonbeliever's Judgment

Revelation 20:11-15 NLT

¹¹ And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide. ¹² I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds. ¹⁴ Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵ And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.

Observation: Circle references to a person including pronouns.
Underline any reference to judgment or its synonym.

2 Corinthians 5:10

1. Who will be judged by Christ? (5:10)
2. Why must we all appear before the judgment seat of Christ? (5:10)
3. How do you think you can prepare yourself in this life to face the judgment seat of Christ?

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

4. What illustration did Paul use to picture ministry, discipleship, & serving Christ? (3:10–11)
5. What in our lives is like gold, silver, jewels? (3:12)
6. What in our lives is like wood, hay, or straw? (3:12)
7. What does "fire" represent in Paul's analogy? (3:13, 15)
8. What happens to the person who builds into the lives of others? (3:13–15)

Revelation 20:11-15

9. What particular vision begins this portion of John's revelation? (20:11)
10. Who will be involved in the final judgment? (20:12)
11. What type of records are kept in heaven? (20:12)
12. On what basis will people be judged at the end of time? (20:12–13)
13. From what diverse places will the dead assemble for this judgment? (20:13)
14. How did John describe the lake of fire? (20:14)
15. What will happen to those whose names are not found in the book of life? (20:15)
16. How does a person get his or her name recorded in the book of life?

Conclusion

God is a just & righteous judge who cannot ignore sin. Everyone will have their day in His court. Be ready. Receive Christ. Live for Christ.