

REASONS MEN WILL BE LOST or EXCUSES AT THE JUDGMENT (taught a version of this in 2018,2022)

Last week we started talking about the Day of Judgement. This is a day that has been set by God and on that day, He will judge everyone that has ever lived.

We looked at:

The time of judgment

The purpose of judgment (hand out rewards and punishments)

The surprises at the judgment

The preparation for the judgment

Tonight, I want to do 2 things:

- Look at 2 facts about the Judgment Day
- Look at 5 excuses that some will try but that will not work on the Judgment Day

I. FACTS ABOUT THE JUDGMENT DAY

1. Not everyone will be saved on that day

Matt. 7:21

“not everyone that says unto me Lord Lord shall enter the kingdom of heaven”

Some are going to be saved and some are going to be lost eternally.

Some people say, “God is a good God and will not condemn anyone to hell.”

I heard of a lady one time that went to see her preacher and they were talking about this verse and she said, “I see what it says but I just can’t believe that God would do that”

Some people think that even though

- They didn’t go to church
- They didn’t read God’s word and obey it
- They didn’t serve others
- They didn’t live for Jesus

They were not IN CHRIST!!

They think God will say, “You didn’t obey my commands...but I’m going to save you”

We don’t like to think about it, but the Bible teaches that some are going to be saved and some are going to be lost.

And it is not the way...

- God wants it
- Christ wants it
- It’s not the way Christians want it

The fact is that.... ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.....not everyone will be saved!

2. More people will be lost than will be saved

Matt. 7:13,14

Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

In the history of God dealing with man, it has always been the minority who have obeyed and been saved.

- 1) Noah and his family (8)
- 2) Joshua and Caleb into the promised land
- 3) Only 3,000 among 1 million on the day of Pentecost

God is going to say, “depart from me, I never knew you”...many more times than He will say, “Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you”

Again, it’s not the way God wants it! God wants ALL to be saved from our SINS!!

2 Pet. 3:9

but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

1 Tim. 2:3,4

Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

So, 2 facts about the judgment day:

1. Not everyone will be saved
2. More people will be lost than be saved

ON that day there are going to be many excuses given to God.

But none of these excuses are going to work.

II. EXCUSES THAT WILL NOT WORK AT THE JUDGMENT

1. Lord, I didn't know what you wanted me to do

Some people will plead ignorance of the LAW!!

But we know that ignorance is no excuse. Ask any police officer about ignorance of the law.

You could get stopped for speeding and say, "I had no idea what the speed limit was".....that's no excuse....you were still breaking the law!!

None of us should be ignorant of God's law!!

Psalms 119:105

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path

2 Pet. 1:3

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Ignorance is no excuse!!

With all the books, and technology we have today....we should not say, "I didn't know enough" or "I didn't know what you wanted me to do"

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.

Don't be one that stands on the Judgment Day and says "Lord, I didn't know what you wanted me to do"

2. Lord, I thought if I was good and sincere I would be saved

Proverbs 14:12

There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Look at Cornelius...

Acts 10:2

A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always.

A) Cornelius was sincere, he feared God, he did good things...he prayed....**But he was not saved!!**

B) Paul was sincere when he was persecuting the church....he was sincere when he was fasting and praying in Damascus waiting on Ananias....**but he was not saved**

C) The Ethiopian Eunuch was sincere when he was riding in the chariot, he was trying to understand the scriptures....he was studying, **but he was not saved!**

D) Uzzah was sincere when he tried to steady the ark of the covenant...but he was punished with death--**2 Samuel 6:7**

You might be the best person in the world, but if you are not obeying the will of God, then it doesn't matter how sincere you are!!

Matt. 7:21-23

Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Don't think that being sincere will save you!!

- Only the blood of Jesus Christ will save you!!
- Only being obedient to the gospel will save you!!

Our goodness and our righteousness is as filthy rags--Is. 64:6

3. Lord, “but my preacher said”

There are so many people that have been led astray by their preachers!!

- So many people that have put their trust in someone else for their salvation!!
- Since the church was established, the devil has introduced false teaching into the Lord’s church!!

Because of that...we need to be like the Bereans

Acts 17:11

These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things were so.

Teachings that have mislead people

Old Testament—many churches believe that we are still under the old covenant

Bible says;

Col. 2:14

having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

Other creeds—many churches have creeds or handbooks/bylaws... other than the Bible

Bible says;

Gal. 1:8

But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

God’s word has given us everything we need to pertain to life and godliness--2

Pet.1:3

Baptism – many churches don’t believe that baptism is essential to salvation

Bible says:

1 Peter 3:21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us

Miracles—many churches believe and teach that miracles still exist in the world today...speaking in tongues and visions and special revelations from God.

Bible says:

I Corinthians 13:8-10

Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part. ¹⁰ But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

Lord's supper—many churches take the LS 1 time a year

Bible says:

Acts 20:7

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread

Church—many churches teach that any church is fine; pick the church of your choice

Bible says:

Matt. 16:18

That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church

Eph. 4:4

There is one body

The body is the church--Col. 1:18

And salvation is only found in the body

He is the savior of the body--Eph. 5:23

On and on we could go.....

We have so many family members and friends that have been deceived and taught wrong by their PREACHER!!

Here's my motto; Don't trust your preacher!! (at least in spiritual matters, until you have proved him)

Don't base your salvation on what you preacher says is right!!

Search it out....test your preacher....make sure he is teaching the Bible.

Don't stand at the Judgment Day and say, "I thought my preacher was right"

4. Lord, I became a Christian, but I gave up

2 Peter 2:21

For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.

2 Timothy 4:7,8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Don't give up the fight!!

- Even when you sin...keep trying
- Even when you are discouraged....keep trying
- Even when you want to give up....keep trying

Don't stand before God and say, I once was a Christian...but I gave up!!

He will say, depart from me, I never knew you!!

5. Lord, I thought there was plenty of time

Today is the day of salvation....tomorrow may be too late.

James 4:14

whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

I have known people that have said, "I'm going to start doing right. I'm going to get my life right."

But that time never came. They kept living their lives and forgetting God and they died in their sins.

A preacher told me about a man in his church. Every time he would preach this man was convicted in his heart.

He would never come forward. One night the preacher had a lesson on salvation and the judgment...the man started to step out into the aisle but he didn't. He shook the preacher's hand and said, you almost got me tonight.

While they were in the foyer, they heard a crash...the man had pulled out in front on a pickup truck...died at the scene!!

2 Cor. 6:2

Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

CONCLUSION:

Don't bring any excuses to the Judgment Day.

- There is nothing you can say that will be good enough!!
- We will be judged on how we live!!

If you were to face the Judgment tonight....would you have any excuses?

When I stand before God on high, I want to say, "I did my very best to obey you will"

I hope to hear these words.... "well done, thou good and faithful servant....enter ye in into the joys of the Lord"

But if you stand before God with just one excuse he will say, "depart from me into everlasting punishment"

Our souls are going to live for eternity!!

Our souls are never going to die!!

We are either going to spend eternity in:

Heaven—God, streets of gold, Christians, angels, etc.

Hell—Devil, demons, alone, fire, darkness, weeping & gnashing of teeth

Heb. 9:27

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment

What we do on this earth will determine where we will spend ETERNITY!!