

HOPE through Prophecy



Lesson 14 - Revelation's Judgment Hour, Part 1

1. What does Jesus say He is bringing with Him when He returns? Rev. 22:12
2. How will he determine these rewards? Ac. 17:31; Eccl. 12:14
3. When does Revelation 14:6-7 say the judgment is?

The Bible says that Jesus is coming with rewards, to reward every person "according to their works." This means that there must be some way of determining what those rewards are before Jesus comes. Revelation 14 brings this "judgment hour" to view.

4. Where can we go in the Bible to find this judgment? Dan. 7:11-14
5. How do we know the judgment scene in Daniel 7 isn't past or future? Lk. 19:11-12; 12:35-36.

In Daniel 7, we read that in this judgment, the Son of Man receives a kingdom. Jesus pictured Himself as a ruler who was going away to receive a kingdom and return (Lk. 19:11-2). He also pictured Himself as going to a wedding before He returned (Lk. 12:35-6). In Rev. 21:9-10, we see Christ's "bride," the New Jerusalem – a kingdom! In the parables, Jesus placed His return after the wedding, after the reception of the kingdom, and thus after the judgment of Daniel 7.

6. Which two parties are the focus of the Dan. 7 judgment scene? Dan. 7:21-2; 26-7.

Notice that the judgment in Daniel 7 seems to be deciding between the antichrist (little horn) and the saints. It appears that the antichrist is trying to gain dominion over the earth, but the Bible declares that the judgment will decide "in favor of the saints," and in the end the time comes for the saints to "possess the kingdom."

7. Where does the judgment of Daniel 7 take place? Ps. 122:1-5; 73:15-17.
8. What event does this judgment correspond with? Dan. 8:14.

The Day of Atonement is the Hebrew day of judgment. Encarta Encyclopedia in an article on Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement), says "Yom Kippur is a day of confession, repentance, and prayers for forgiveness of sins committed during the year against the laws and covenant of God. It is also the day on which an individual's fate for the ensuing year is thought to be sealed." Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, from his book "Jews and Judaism," p. 125, Eckstein describes the Day of Atonement as a person's last chance to repent of sin – "our final opportunity to come before God to plead for merciful judgment."

9. Where is the evidence in this heavenly judgment day? Dan. 7:10; Rev. 20:12.
10. What kind of information do these books contain? Mt. 12:36-7; 2 Cor. 5:10; Eccl. 11:9; 1 Cor. 4:5; Eccl. 12:14.

The books of heaven carefully record every detail of the life. In order for judgment to be fair and true, no evidence may be withheld. All is laid open to view.

11. What are the words, actions, and motives compared to as the standard of what is right? Eccl. 12:13-14; Jas. 2:12.
12. Who is our representative in this judgment? Heb. 9:24; Mt. 10:32-33; 1 Jn. 2:1.

The Bible tells us that Jesus is our "advocate" in 1 Jn. 2:1. The Greek word translated "advocate" is the word "parakletos." In New Testament times, this word was used in a court of justice to denote a legal assistant, counsel for the defense, an advocate; one who pleads another's cause.

13. By what means will the antichrist's dominion be "taken away"? Dan. 7:26-7.
14. What effect does our sin have upon God's holy name? Rom. 2:23-4; Ezek. 36:20-23.
15. Who is watching our lives to see how professed followers of Jesus live? 1 Cor. 4:9.

Our actions have a much greater bearing upon the universe than many realize. The Bible tells us that God's name is reproached, blasphemed, because of the disobedience of His professed followers. In essence, when we disobey the Lord in any particular, we are casting our vote on the side of enemy by saying that he is a better master than God.

16. What does God promise that the outcome of this judgment will be? Rev. 15:1-4.

That God's ways will be revealed, made known, and shown to be true, right, good and fair.

17. What does the Bible assure us about Christ's work in our behalf? Heb. 7:25.
18. Who stood for Christ without having any assurance of eternal life? Lk. 23:39-43.

Jesus "always lives" to stand up for His people. The thief on the cross determined to stand up for Jesus. Are you willing, also, to stand for Him? Make your decision today.