

Message Notes | End of the World

Part 2: Judgment Day

Matthew 25:31-46

- a troubling dilemma if God is good
- as you would separate sheep from goats - **vs. 31-33**

**#1 The final judgment will be a _____
_____ process from God's perspective.**

- the wheat and the weeds - **Matthew 13:40-43**
- one of two verdicts await every person

**#2 Those who are righteous _____
_____ judgment.**

- the basis for the judgment - **vs. 35-46**

#3 The _____ is not what we would expect.

- the verdict - **Romans 3:10-12, 23-24**

**#4 In Christ, your _____
has already _____.**

Group Questions | End of the World

Part 2: Judgment Day

Matthew 25:31-46

1. Jesus compared the sorting process at the final judgment to the way a shepherd would separate sheep from goats. What are some modern analogies that might help people visualize the process of sorting things into categories?
2. God wants us to call fellow believers to repentance when necessary, but God does not want us to act as judge over others. What's the difference?
3. Why is it unwise to assume the position of "judge" over people in everyday life?
4. **Read Matthew 25:34-40.** What evidence does the king point to when declaring the people to his right "righteous"?

What does this mean for people who think they will get to heaven because they follow a certain set of rules?
5. **Read Romans 3:10-12.** What does it mean in verse 12 when it says, "There is no one who does good"? How would you define "good" in this context?
6. If someone asked you, "How can a loving God send people to hell," what are some things that a good answer would bring up?
7. What advice would you give to someone who is living in fear of judgment day because they are uncertain how God will judge them?

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Part 2: Judgment Day

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- a troubling dilemma if God is good
- as you would separate sheep from goats - **vs. 31-33**

#1 The final judgment will be a simple sorting process from God's perspective.

- the wheat and the weeds - **Matthew 13:40-43**
- one of two verdicts await every person

#2 Those who are righteous look forward to judgment.

- the basis for the judgment - **vs. 35-46**

#3 The evidence is not what we would expect.

- the verdict - **Romans 3:10-12, 23-24**

#4 In Christ, your judgment has already happened.

Bible Reading for Today

Matthew 25:31-46

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

³⁴ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?' ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

⁴⁰ "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

⁴¹ "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

⁴⁴ "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

⁴⁵ "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

⁴⁶ "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."