



THE FINAL JUDGMENT According to Scriptures

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Justice and Judgment

- Hebrew word for ‘justice’ is ‘*mishpat*’.
- Implies that all things are in their proper place and are related to one another in the correct way. Deviations from this state constitute injustice.
- The Torah serves as a guide for preventing correcting such injustices.
- To correct these injustices and restore the state of justice is to judge (Hebrew ‘*shafat*’).

Justice and Judgment

- God is continuously working in creation to bring about and preserve this state of justice.
- When human persons live in a way that is in keeping with the justice of God, they participate in His operation.
- This participation is transformative and produces a state of blessing, or alignment with God and His purposes in creation.

Justice and Judgment

- When humans live unjustly, they are contrary to the way in which God operates within His created order.
- This leads to corruption and also produces a state of curse.
- This state is broken from the system of relationships that constitute justice in the world.
- Throughout the Old Testament, curse entails banishment from the community and the place where God dwells.

Justice and Judgment

Psalm 1

“Blessed is the man who...
delights in the [teachings]
of the Lord, and on his
[teachings] he meditates
day and night.”

Psalm 2

“The kings of the earth set
themselves, and the rulers
take counsel together,
against the Lord and against
His Anointed.”

Justice and Judgment

See Amos 5:21-27

“I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies...

“But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream...

“Did you bring to me sacrifices and offerings during the
forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?”

Blessings (Lk. 6:20-22) and Woes (Lk. 6:24-26)

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man!”

Blessings (Lk. 6:20-22) and Woes (Lk. 6:24-26)

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

“Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.”

Will There Be A Final Judgment?

- What are the implications if there were NO final judgment?
- But what if there IS judgment?

Will There Be A Final Judgment?

When the Son of God comes at the Second Coming
It will not be by the Cross as it was in the
First coming when He came as a sacrifice, but
He will come to pass judgment when He comes again.

He will try the world like gold in a crucible
And the fire will burn any impurity.
Be fearful my brethren when the Son of God comes
Let us hasten to take refuge in repentance.

(Bo'utho from Vespers of Tuesday)

Will There Be A Final Judgment?

St. Matthew 12:36-37, “I tell you, on the *Day of Judgment* people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

2 Corinthians 5:10, “For we must all appear before the *Judgment Seat* of Christ, so that each one may *receive what is due* for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”

Who Judges?

St. John 5:22-29, “For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son...And He has given Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man.

Daniel 7:13-14, “Behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a Son of Man, And to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom”

Basis of God's Judgment

St. Matthew 25:31-46, “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me...

“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.”

Basis of God's Judgment

1 Corinthians 8:9-12, “But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak... So by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.”

The Final Judgment

St. John 5: 28-29, “For an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear His voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.”

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, “For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command...And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air...”

The Final Judgment

What will we hear?

St. Matthew 7:21-23, “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord...’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; *depart from me*, you workers of lawlessness.’”

The Final Judgment

What will we hear?

St. Matthew 25:14-31 – The Parable of the Talents

“Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.”

The Final Judgment

Revelation 20:12-15, “I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened...And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the Book of Life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

The Final Judgment

Revelation 21:1-4, “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away... And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God...”

Questions?