

Title: The Next Life - Two Judgments
Revelation 20:11-15; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Introduction

The prevailing theme of our day is, "We have only this life, and we are ultimately accountable to no one but ourselves for how we spend it." However, the Bible teaches that this life is not all there. This life is but a brief time to prepare for the next life.

1. The Bible teaches that we are _____ to God for how we live our lives.
2. God will render a final _____ on how we live this life, and His ruling will determine our eternal destiny.
3. The prophet Amos wisely instructed the people to " _____ to meet your God" (Amos 4:12).
4. As we study the Bible, we learn about two distinct _____ and that all of us will give an account to God at one of these _____.

I. The Great White Throne

5. Revelation 20 contains the most detailed _____ of this judgment.
6. "The dead" refers to those _____ to this judgment; it doesn't refer to all of humanity.
7. The picture shows a judge pronouncing a _____ verdict at a criminal trial.
8. _____ are not a part of this judgment.
9. John calls physical death the " _____ death."

10. "The _____ death" is the execution of the sentence given at the Great White Throne Judgment.
11. The "second death" guarantees the dead will spend _____ in the "lake of fire" or "hell."
12. In this life, there are always other chances, but at the judgment, there is only everlasting _____ at having permanently blown the opportunity to receive God's forgiveness.
13. Just as the saved receive new bodies suitable for experiencing an eternity of God's _____ kindness, the damned receive new bodies appropriate for experiencing God's _____ wrath.
14. Each person will have his deeds _____ in the light of God's perfect righteousness, and compared to God's righteousness, no one can be saved.
15. _____ has sinned and will be found guilty.
16. Those who violate it most flagrantly will receive greater condemnation (Matt. 23:14)—but everyone guilty of violations will be _____ (Matt. 5:22-30).
17. All sin is cosmic _____, a rejection of God's moral authority, and deserving of His wrath.
18. There is another, more tragic reason why these people are condemned - their names are not recorded in "the _____ of life" (20:15).
19. "The Book of Life" is the _____ of those who have received God's offer of salvation through Jesus Christ (3:5; 1 Jn. 5:5).

20. Jesus _____ you from God's judgment and welcomes you into eternal life (Jn. 5:24).
21. But if you willfully reject Christ's offer, you can't say God sends you to hell—you send yourself to hell by rejecting his merciful _____.
22. What about the people who never heard the gospel? —the infants, those with developmental disabilities, the people without the Bible?" Suffice it to say that God will deal with them _____ and mercifully.
23. We will face the judgment of Christ in a different but still _____ way.

II. The "Bema"

24. 1 Corinthians 3 gives us the most detailed _____ of "The Judgment Seat of Christ.
25. Only _____ are judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ (vs. 16,23).
26. The result of this judgment is God's _____.
27. Scripture shows us two main features of this reward. One is the _____ we receive from God for pleasing him.
28. Christ has also chosen us to rule and _____ with him.
29. Every believer will have a role in this kingdom which will be _____ based on our faithfulness to God's purposes in this life.
30. The basis for the reward at The Judgment Seat of Christ is "the _____ of each person's work" for Christ in this life.

Conclusion

31. Every one of us is headed to one of these judgments, and all of us are helping _____ to one of these two eternal destinies.

Scripture gives us a good reason not to judge one another. We will all stand before God's judgment seat and give an account of ourselves to God. None of us are qualified to be the Judge. Only the Lord Jesus is qualified, and the Godhead trusts Him with all judgment.

Answers

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| 1. accountable | 12.regret | 23.important |
| 2. verdict | 13.infinite | 24.account |
| 3. Prepare | 14.examined | 25.Christians |
| 4. judgments | 15.Everyone | 26.reward |
| 5. account | 16.sentenced | 27.praise |
| 6. condemned | 17.treason | 28.reign |
| 7. guilty | 18.book | 29.determined |
| 8. Believers | 19.record | 30.quality |
| 9. first | 20.pardons | 31.others |
| 10.second | 21.provision | |
| 11.eternity | 22.fairly | |

QUESTIONS FOR MEDITATION

1. Have you accepted Christ's payment for your sin that allows you to escape the Great White Throne judgment? If not, what is preventing you from accepting this offer of grace?
2. What aspect of the Judgment Seat of Christ is most motivating to you: God's praise for you or His bestowing a role in rulership for you in Heaven?
3. How do you imagine the specific rewards from the Judgment Seat of Christ will make you feel? What can you do now to help increase that reward?