

Dear Reader,

It has been a tremendous pleasure to have come inside your home via 21st Century Truths over the last several months. A great deal of time, effort and study have gone into the delivery of our Lord's plan of salvation in an understandable manner. As you have seen, we have used only His word in delivery of His plan. In order to be pleasing to Him, we can make no additions or subtractions from His requirements.

Many in the religious world today have twisted and perverted God's plan of salvation to suit their own interest. God DEMANDS obedience to His will...NO ACCEPTION. As you have read over the last few months in this publication, God's plan of salvation has several steps in becoming one of His.

Hearing his word is necessary in order to know what one must do to be saved. Upon hearing the Word of a true heart, Belief is brought about (Mark 16:16, Acts 8:37, Hebr. 11:6). Our belief and understanding that our sins have separated us from the living God and His eternal rest will cut us to the heart (Acts 2:37). However, mere belief alone is insufficient to save (James 2:19). Belief will cause us to Repent (turn away from) of our sins, seeking to follow Him in light rather than the darkness of sin (Acts 2:38, 8:22, Luke 13:3). Such belief and repentance will create within ourselves the desire confess Christ. Such Confession that Christ Jesus is the son of God is the next step required (Matt. 10:30, Acts 8:37, Romans 10:10). Please note, the scriptures do NOT say to confess that Christ has saved you because as of this "step" you are NOT saved.

The only way one became a saved child of God in the first century (and still today), is by "putting Christ on" through our obedience in Baptism (Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38-41, 8:12-13, 8:38, 10:48, 16:15, 33, Gal. 3:23, I Peter 3:20-21). NO man devised method, idea, practice, or rational will changes God's Word on the fact that one MUST be buried (immersed) in water to have the hope of eternal life. Have you obeyed God as He requires? If not, WHY NOT NOW?

Once again, it has been a pleasure to have had the opportunity to bring the unadulterated Word of God to you. I believe those which have now read these publications fall into three main categories: 1) Those which have obeyed God's plan of salvation as He requires and faithfully serving Him as He demands, 2) Those that have permitted themselves to be deceived and are erroneously following after denominational doctrines of men (though Christ is NOT divided), and 3) Those that have no interest in God's first century truth in becoming a Christian. Although this will be the last issue you will receive of 21st Century Truths, we do not want you to stop seeking after Him. We are always prepared to study with you from God's Holy Word to find His path to righteousness and our eternal home in heaven. If we can be of assistance to you in becoming a faithful child of God, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please remember, the judgment that awaits each of us. Severe will be the eternal judgment to those who refuse the will of God.

Sincerely,

Randy M. Meyer, Editor

What Will Happen on the Judgment Day?

"The deeds we do, the words we say, into the still air they seem to fleet, we count them ever past; but they shall last, - in the dread of judgment, they and we shall meet again" (John Keeble). On that final day, the Lord shall descend from Heaven, the dead raised, and the living changed (I Thess. 4:16, I Cor. 15:52, John 5:28-29). All nations shall be gathered together before the great judgment seat of God, WITHOUT exception (Matt. 25:32). He will separate the sheep from the goats, the wheat from the chaff, the righteous from the unrighteous. The great judge will welcome the righteous to their eternal home and condemn the wicked to everlasting punishment (Matt. 25:34, 41). Every person shall stand alone and be judged according to their own works (II Cor. 5:10). There will be no plea bargaining or excuses made on that day. Such judgment will be complete, including our thoughts and deeds; there will be no secrets remaining as we stand before the Great I Am (Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-14). The judgment will be final with no procrastination or reprieve for time, as we know it now, has forever ceased (Matt. 25:41-46). TODAY is our "second chance"; at judgment all opportunities will have ended. I don't know about you, but just considering such a day should make us want to excel in serving and obeying God to our fullest.

There will be some surprises for some on the day of judgment. Many will be surprised that judgment is real and not a dream/nightmare. We may have a hard time understanding the reality of such a day. We live confidently that we have tomorrow. That is a foolish mistake as judgment is real and is certain. Many may scoff of such a day as they did in Noah's time (II Pet. 3:3). Nevertheless, scoffing will not diminish the reality of judgment. Scoffing did not stop the flood nor will it stop the judgment day. Imagine how the scoffers felt as they gasped breath one last time before going down into a watery abyss. At that point to you think they realized God's judgment was real.

The time of judgment will surprise some. Although Noah warned the people of the impending judgment to come, the masses did not listen. Today is no different. Scoffers hear the plea yet reason to themselves "I was here yesterday, I will be here tomorrow. Why all the fuss?" God is longsuffering, not willing for any to perish, but to not try the patients of God and the grace he has extended (II Pet. 3:10). The final day of judgment will come suddenly upon those who have not been watching. A true child of God is continually preparing for that Great day coming.

The purpose of judgment will surprise many. Judgment will not be a trial wherein we can "argue our case". Such will be a day of reckoning, sentencing, and vindication of God's justice as every knee bows before Him (Phil. 2:9-10). It will be a time of forever separating the righteous from the unrighteous; blessing for some and terror for others (Matt. 25:32; II Thess. 2:6-9). On that day, we will meet our personal responsibility. Each of us will stand alone before the judge. Parents, spouses, children, and friends will not be able to assist us. We will face the all seeing, all knowing God with terror if we have not been faithful to His instructions. The dividing line will be our obedience or disobedience to His commands. Think about it - we are making the decisions for our eternal dwelling place each day of our lives.

The judgment will reveal a surprising standard for many. No religious creeds or traditions, man's "think so" or feelings will judge us on that day. Honesty, sincerity, or moral excellence will not matter. Only the standard of God's word will be our judge (John 12:48). We may attempt to argue with His word today, but there will be no arguing on that day. There will be no mistaking His message and commands at that time.

The judgment will most surprise "religious" people. On that day the "church of your choice" will be NO choice. There will be NO "one doctrine is as good as another"; NO "just different paths all going to the same place". All who have taught and believed such erroneous doctrines of men will realize God's truth does matter. How sad to have followed and practice false religion for an entire lifetime to be "rewarded" by hearing "Depart from me, I never knew you" (Matt. 7:21-23). How tragic to think oneself to be right, only to come to judgment and suddenly realize we allowed ourselves to believe a lie (Matt. 15:13).

In view of what will happen on the judgment day, will you be surprised? We CAN realize judgment is real, sure, know His purpose, and be watching for such a day ONLY by adhering to His standard alone. God has done all He can to help us avoid condemnation...The rest is up to us. Do you want Him as bad as He wants you? Then obey him today and begin preparing for life everlasting. There is danger and eternal death in delay.

Randy M. Meyer

KIDS KORNER

21st CENTURY TRUTHS

is published by the Glass Street Church of Christ for the express purpose of holding up the Bible as God's complete word for mankind today, and encouraging people to read and practice a committed faith in it. We would like to welcome newcomers to our community and want you to know that there is a conservative, non-denominational, New Testament church meeting nearby.

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