

Here Comes the Judge

While the last Prince of Wales was on a visit to the Midlands, he went into a certain workingman's home. Next day, the workingman told his mates sadly: "I never expected him, nor did my wife. The house was untidy, and I hadn't washed. We shall never forgive ourselves. If we had known he was coming, we should have been ready for him." The Prince of Peace is coming again, in power, to this earth of ours, and we know not the day or the hour. The one question for all is, "Are we ready to meet Him?" Jesus is coming again!

In our modern more genteel view, we prefer an image of God that is only gentle, loving, forgiving, even grandfatherly. Fathers can be stern; whereas grandpas, Pop Pops are a soft touch. God is love; He is good; He is gentle and forgiving. Yet, perhaps we purposefully ignore other attributes of God. Earthly Fathers can love and correct simultaneously. Sure our Heavenly Father does so perfectly.

The Apostle's Creed holds us accountable to a foundational, unwavering doctrine. We believe that He (Jesus) will come to judge the living from the dead. **Acts 10:42** - "And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He (Jesus) **who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead.**

Jude 14-23

- Enoch
 - **Genesis 5:24** - And Enoch walked with God; and he [was] not, for God took him.
 - Enoch represents a generation who will be alive when Christ comes again.
- Lord comes with 10,000s of saints to execute judgment on all
 - Many receive harsh condemnation
 - But you, can remain in strong faith and love by praying in the Holy Spirit
- We have a mission to perform until That Day. We are to show compassion on most. Others we need to pull out of the fire with fear.
- **John 3:16** - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him **should not perish** but have everlasting life.
 - Our message is not condemnation, but compassion!
 - Yet, if none will perish, then why did Jesus come?
 - If there is no judgment for sin, then we need not redemption.
 - If all are saved, then faith is unnecessary.
 - It seems that we do need to be saved; and that we cannot save ourselves. We need a Savior. We must put our faith in Him to be saved!

There are two things you can never change: the past and what God says will happen in the future!

2 Peter 3:1-13

- Scoffers are a sign of the times
- God judged the world before
- Day of Judgment is coming
- Why the delay?
 - It is not God's will to condemn, but that all would repent!
 - God's will is for you to be saved, but will not force His will on you!
- Know this: **Romans 14:12** - ... each of us shall give account of himself to God.
- While we wait, what manner of persons ought we to be?
 - Demonstrate holy conduct and godliness (fruit of the Holy Spirit)
 - Concern ourselves with Christ's mission - to seek and to save the lost.

Conclusion

- Christ is coming again.
- When He comes, it will be to bring judgment and reward
- The scoffers and negligent will suffer harsh judgment.
- The faithful will receive reward
- **1 Corinthians 3:13-15** - each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.
- **Hebrews 9:27** - And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment