

Sermon Reflections

Judgment Day Sneak-Peek • Matthew 25:31–46

Summary: Test yourself by these three truths of the coming judgment, so you can be ready.

Judgment Day Pre-Test:

1. Judgment for All (vv. 31–33)

- At the end of the tribulation Christ will return and judge the survivors. Seeing this judgment here in Matthew 25 should also prepare us for the time when we will all see our Judge. Knowing that an inescapable judgment is coming, how do vv. 31–33 help you understand God’s character and sovereignty?

2. Blessings for All Who Serve His People (vv. 34–40)

- When the King says, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father...,” what does he mean by ‘blessed’? Read Eph 1:1–10 and Ps 37:18–22. How have you been blessed by God?
- What is the correlation between the good works that these faithful ‘sheep’ do, and their status as blessed? How does Eph 2:10 help us better understand these good works?
- Good works show the mentality and attitude of the heart. You want to serve your King? Then you must serve and love your King’s people. Why are the people in vv. 37–39 surprised? What does the King’s response in v. 40 tell us about their attitude and perspective in service? What are some ‘good’ perspectives that we can have while we serve? What are some ‘bad’ attitudes that we can have while we serve?
- We live in a very affluent society. It might be difficult to see these needs currently at GBC. How can you still maintain a heart that is ready and willing to serve? What current ways do you humble yourself in this way? What are some ways that you can do this better? What needs are there currently in the body (not just among your friends)?

3. Curses for All Who Neglect His People (vv. 41–46)

- Those who reject God’s people reject God Himself. But these aren’t active sins of hostility—rather they are passive sins of neglect and omission. Why are these sins so easy to slip into? What are some ways we can guard against these deceptive sins? What does it mean to say, “if you don’t have compassion on Christ’s people, then Christ will reject you”?
- Do you love Christ? Do you *also* love His Bride? We see here a plea to lovingly and genuinely serve the body. Do you selfishly serve — serving only so that you can receive? Why is serving the church so important — especially in comparison to helping all in need? What are some ways that you can better serve right now? Read Jn 13:31–35, Gal 6:10, and Heb 10:32–39.