

JUDGMENT FOR THE SAVED: PART II

Beloved, we are [even here and] now God's children; it is not yet disclosed (made clear) what we shall be [hereafter], but we know that when He comes and is manifested, we shall [as God's children] resemble and be like Him, for we shall see Him just as He [really] is. 1 John 3:2

1 John 3:2 holds the Truth in our freedom from judgement: because when Jesus returns, we will be made to be like Him, exactly like Him. Jesus is free from judgment, and when He appears, we too we be like Him and free from judgment. Remember what Jesus taught us, that we already have eternal life in Him and that we will not come up for judgment.

I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, the person whose ears are open to My words [who listens to My message] and believes and trusts in and clings to and relies on Him Who sent Me has (possesses now) eternal life. And he does not come into judgment [does not incur sentence of judgment, will not come under condemnation], but he has already passed over out of death into life. John 5:24

Here is an important question: what is the time frame from Jesus returning and Judgement Day?

Blessed (happy, to be envied) and holy (spiritually whole, of unimpaired innocence and proved virtue) is the person who takes part (shares) in the first resurrection! Over them the second death exerts no power or

authority, but they shall be ministers of God and of Christ (the Messiah), and they shall rule along with Him a thousand years. Revelation 20:6

When Jesus first returns, all who have ever been called and chosen to be one with Him will become like Him. Those who have died and those who are alive, will all become just like Jesus at His return. Then we will all rule with our Lord for a thousand years.

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a loud cry of summons, with the shout of an archangel, and with the blast of the trumpet of God. And those who have departed this life in Christ will rise first. Then we, the living ones who remain [on the earth], shall simultaneously be caught up along with [the resurrected dead] in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so always (through the eternity of the eternities) we shall be with the Lord! 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

Judgment Day comes a thousand years after Jesus returns. That means that Judgment Day occurs a thousand years after we have been made to be exactly like Jesus.

I [also] saw the dead, great and small; they stood before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is [the Book] of Life. And the dead were judged (sentenced) by what they had done [their whole way of feeling and acting, their aims and endeavors] in accordance with what was recorded in the books. And the sea delivered up the dead who were in it, death and Hades (the state of death or disembodied existence) surrendered the dead in them, and all were tried and their cases determined by what they had done [according to their

motives, aims, and works]. Then death and Hades (the state of death or disembodied existence) were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. Revelation 20:12–14

Notice that on Judgement Day that the Holy Spirit did not have John write that those who had been raised up a thousand years earlier and made to be like Jesus will be judged. John only saw the dead being judged on Judgment Day.

If Christians were to be judged on Judgment Day here is what would have to happen. Our new bodies, the ones that are just like Jesus' Body, would have to be taken from us. We would have to die, only to be risen again, so that we could be judged. For this to be true, Jesus would also have to have this happen to Him, so that He could be judged, because He also lived as a man.

The Truth for us is so glorious. We have passed from all judgment through Grace. We have boldness for the Day of Judgment because we aren't going to face it. Through Christ we have passed from judgment and we now live in eternal life. Jesus came and chose us, and because He has, we now have and enjoy life more abundantly.

In this [union and communion with Him] love is brought to completion and attains perfection with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment [with assurance and boldness to face Him], because as He is, so are we in this world. 1 John 4:17