

Since death seals man's fate, why is there a judgment day?

By Bob Prichard *House to House Heart to Heart*

Numerous times the Scriptures refer to the day of judgment, the day of the Lord, or the day of Christ. On that day, the Lord will judge all mankind. Paul wrote, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).

Recording his heavenly vision, John described the scene: "I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works" (Revelation 20:12).

Jesus described the scene as a great division between the sheep and the goats: "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats: and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left" (Matthew 25:31-33).

Many think of the great judgment day in terms of a trial, in which God weighs a person's good and bad deeds in the balance, but instead it is more a day for God to render final judgment or give the final sentence for eternity. The vision of Revelation 20 describes it as the opening of the book of life, and other books describing the works of men.

The ultimate question of the day is: "Whose name is written in the Lamb's book of life?" That is all that will really be important that day. Those with their names in the Lamb's book of life will rejoice as the Lord says, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34). Those on the left will hear the awful words, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41). And, "whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15).

Death settles the issue of judgment. God judges every man according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad (2 Corinthians 5:10). The idea of changing a person's eternal fate after death due to suffering in an intermediate state is foreign to Scripture. There is no second chance!

Jesus described the fate of a rich man, and the beggar Lazarus outside his gates. Both the rich man and Lazarus were in the realm of the dead, in preparation for the last great judgment day, but the rich man was in torment and Lazarus was in Abraham's bosom.

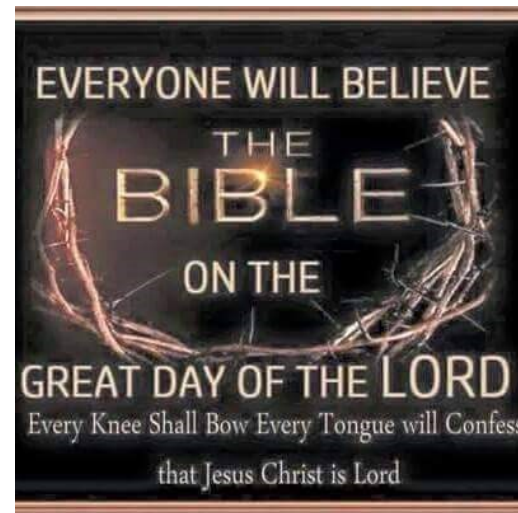
In torment, the rich man cried for Lazarus to come to comfort him, but Abraham said, "between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence" (Luke 16:24-26). All of us will stand before God's throne someday. We must be prepared. The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night (2 Peter 3:10). He enters our names in the book of life when we obey His gospel.

Prayers and Concerns

- ♦ Amy Myers started chemo last Thursday, and Debbie Eslinger started chemo on Friday. Both are weekly treatments.
- ♦ Rose Burton is recovering at home from hip surgery.
- ♦ Remember those with health issues—Dorlene Butler, Ruth Strain, Norma Jones, Steve Siebels, Aleta Collins, Bob Robbins.
- ♦ All those battling cancer—Amy Myers, Don Luna, Harold Reynolds, Jim Kirkland, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Nikki Smith, Brad Luna, Marian Luna, Jenny James, Bill McFarland, Debbie Eslinger.
- ♦ Those in GHCC: Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes. Bonnie Luna at Ava. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Jack Moyers, Cyprus Spring. Wilbern Uchtman, Brook Haven in West Plains; Irene Corp in Care Manor.

We need help at 5 p.m.
Wednesday to fill trunk-
or-treat candy bags.
Check with Jessica to see
if she needs help to pass
out candy on Oct. 31st.

Your presence is
needed here next
Monday at 7 p.m.
for Unite to
Worship. Please
bring a dessert.



Birthdays		Anniversaries	
10-1	Matthew Burton	10-19	Mark and Nichole Lane
10-4	Mary Ann Reynolds	10-19	Chris and Kelly Lemberg
10-4	Spencer Wade	10-26	Jason and Julie Schofield
10-7	Lee Bearden	Birthdays	
10-10	Aubree Schofield (2)	10-16	John Abraham
10-11	Tristan Goodman	10-19	Debra Lane
10-13	Vernon James	10-21	Amy Myers
10-14	Derek Lynne (11)	10-24	Addilyn Strong (7)
10-15	Darren Crisp	10-26	Casey Hambelton

Marsha will be serving Mexican chicken salad, hotdogs, oreo cake, and peanut butter cake for Wednesday night fellowship supper.

Date	Event	Details
October 21-25, 7 p.m. Bring desserts Monday	Unite to Worship—The Power of Preaching Jesus Christ	On Monday Halbert will be preaching here
Wed. Oct. 23, 5 p.m.	Trunk or Treat Prep	Fill candy bags
Saturday Oct. 26, 6 p.m.	Pumpkin carving/painting	Decorate a pumpkin, eat supper, and scavenger hunt
Thursday, Oct. 31	Trunk or Treat on the Square—see Jessica for details and to help	Need donations of candy to be brought here Wed.

October Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

20 John Abraham
27 Mark Lane

Communion & Closing Prayer

Dylan Abraham
Don Reynolds

Song Leader: Titus Smith
Greeters: Tinker & Karen Langston

The Family News

October 20, 2024

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655

www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Jesus Is Coming Back***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for All Ages Downstairs

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up Front

#879, *Hallelujah, We Shall Rise*; #508, *A Wonderful Savior*
#350, *When My Love to Christ Goes Weak*; Communion Service

Someday

Sermon and Invitation

#940, *Only a Step*

#851, *I'll Fly Away*; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace, loving our Lord and one another.

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
Don Luna 417-712-1945
David Stevens 417-679-4700
John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Larry Butler 817-504-1604
Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880