

## DAILY DEVOTIONALS - WEEK OF APRIL 21, 2024

### THEME: "Ultimate Judgment"

#### GOD'S JUDGMENT

**Sunday ..... Read Ecclesiastes 12:4-14**

*"For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."* Almighty God is omniscient; He knows everything! God is aware of all that is going on here on His earth. He knows every person, and will bring all things into judgment. Everyone of us faces that day of judgment! We read in the Bible that there will be two judgments for humans: the Judgment Seat of Christ for true Christians, and the Great White Throne Judgment for those who have never personally received Jesus as Savior. Praise God that the blood of Jesus washes away all sins according to I John 1:7: *"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."* The promise of God to people who accept Christ as personal Savior in Hebrews 10:17 is heartwarming. It says this: *"And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."* All those people who have never accepted Jesus as Savior will face a judgment of punishment of their sins because they have never received God's gift paid for by the blood of Christ. That is the truth mentioned in Romans 6:23: *"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* Believers will be judged, not for sin, but for that which they did for God's glory!

#### JUDGMENT OF NATIONS

**Monday ..... Read Psalm 110:1-6 NIV**

*"He will judge the nations, heaping up the dead, and crushing the rulers of the whole earth."* This is God's Earth. The supreme law for governing God's earth is the Bible. God brought nations into existence when He scattered the people after the building of the tower of Babel as noted in Genesis 11:7-8 *"Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city."* Nations came into existence with different languages. Ultimately, nations had disagreements and engaged in warfare. The 20<sup>th</sup> century had two world wars and His nation, Israel, eventually will rule the world!

#### CURSED NATION

**Tuesday ..... Read Malachi 3:1-10**

*"Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation."* A nation that demonstrates ingratitude for God's blessing in natural resources among other blessings will eventually be cursed because of ingratitude. Jesus is the Savior of the world, the Savior of people of all nations. For the most part, nations have ignored Christ and the Bible, God's Holy Word. They instead have created their own religions and established false gods. The True and Living God is the final Judge and will eventually bring all nations under His control! When the prophet spoke of robbing God, he was talking about people investing their money totally into worldly pursuits, and not into God's work. God makes it clear the people should tithe, giving the first ten percent to His work. Not to do so is robbing God! The most important work on earth today is the building of the true Church, made up of born again Christians. Giving to God's work, whether it be to local churches preaching God's truth or other works engaged in evangelism or the edification of believers, should be our highest budget priority.

## JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

**Wednesday ..... Read: II Corinthians 5:5-10**

*"For 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."* The Judgment Seat of Christ, as I understand it, is for believers. This judgment is to receive awards for the things that we have done for the development of the Church. That would include our involvement in soul winning and in our service for the good of God's family. Our commitment to a local church is the focal point of a believer's earning rewards as God's servants. Believers are advised by Jesus in Matthew 5:14 that they are *"the light of the world."* Our behavior in our homes and communities should reflect the love of God by allowing the indwelling Holy Spirit to have full control of our lives. Fathers and mothers, sons and daughters will be judged for their conduct in their homes. The family is the basic unit in God's scheme of things and is the primary target of God's enemy, the devil. The home is a good place to earn God's rewards!

### REWARDS

**Thursday ..... Read: Matthew 16:25-27**

*"Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works."* The lives of Christians while on earth are very meaningful because we can earn rewards in heaven by that which we do for the glory of God! We are engaged in a lot of things of temporal value to meet our physical and emotional needs. We as citizens of the kingdom of heaven, can also be engaged in things that have eternal purpose. They are the ones that earn eternal rewards. These rewards can be earned in our everyday lives as the light of our world, and they can be earned in our efforts as a member of a local body of believers. We should do as advised in I Corinthians 9:24: *"Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain."*

### CROWN OF LIFE

**Friday ..... Read: James 1:10-13 NIV**

*"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."* One of those awards earned by many Christians is the crown of life. As mentioned in today's Bible reading, that reward is given to believers who persevered under trial. Those trials could be anywhere from having to endure sickness or injury to standing up to those in the world who mock believers. We all like to have trouble-free days, but having said that, the troublesome days give believers the opportunity to earn eternal reward. God is working! A good attitude with faith in God brings honor to God!

### GREAT WHITE THRONE

**Saturday.....Read Revelation 20:10-15**

*"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them."* The Christians face a rewards judgment. The unbeliever, an accounting judgment as a sinner who has rejected God's gift of salvation. This is a judgment that God did not want people to have to face; it is an eternity in hell prepared for the devil. God provided a way for sinful man to be pardoned from the penalty of eternal death by having His Son Jesus shed His blood on the cross at Calvary. If people reject that offer of amazing love and grace, they must pay the penalty of sin's eternal death in the hell that God prepared for the devil and his demons.