

Our Judgment Day

Text: Acts 24:24-25 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. And as he reasoned of **righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.**

II Corinthians 5:10-11, 14-15 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. 11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men... 14 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that **if one died for all, then were all dead**: 15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

Hebrews 9:27-28 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Introduction: FELIX TREMBLED - Who was Felix?

Felix was the Roman governor of Judea who presided over the trial of the apostle Paul in Caesarea, as recorded in Acts 23–24. Felix, also known as Marcus Antonius Felix, served as the Roman procurator of Judea from approximately AD 52 to 60. Originally a freedman, possibly from the household of Emperor Claudius, he rose to power through the influence of his brother, Marcus Antonius Pallas, a secretary of the treasury under Claudius. Felix married Drusilla, the daughter of Herod Agrippa I, after enticing her away from her husband, demonstrating both his political ambition and personal audacity

Historical accounts describe him as cruel, corrupt, and susceptible to bribes.

When Paul was arrested in Jerusalem for preaching the gospel, a mob sought to kill him. Roman commander Claudius Lysias transferred Paul under military escort to Caesarea to ensure his safety, where Felix would hear the case. During the trial, the lawyer Tertullus accused Paul of causing riots and desecrating the temple, but Paul defended himself, noting that his accusers from Asia were absent and that he had not violated Jewish law. Felix, described as being "well acquainted with the Way" (the early Christian movement), postponed judgment, likely seeking more information or hoping for a bribe from Paul. He summoned Paul multiple times to discuss faith in Christ, showing both curiosity and fear; yet he kept Paul imprisoned for two years without a verdict. (reference GOOGLE AI)

I. What do you believe about Judgment Day?

Modern Man has 5 Basic Beliefs about Judgement Day:

1. Do not believe in a future Day of Judgment at all:

Pew Research Poll dated February 28, 2025 (ref.: [pewresearch.org](https://www.pewresearch.org))

83% believe in God or **a universal spirit???** -- **17% do not believe in God in any manner at all!**

86% believe humans have a soul or spirit – **14% do not believe that we possess a soul or spirit!**

- | | 2007 | 2014 | 2023-24 |
|--|------|------|---------------------------------|
| Americans who believe in <u>heaven</u> | 74% | 72% | 67% (33% do not believe) |
| Americans who believe in <u>hell</u> | 59% | 58% | 55% (45% do not believe) |
2. Believe in Other Religious Teaching such as Islam, Buddhism, Reincarnation, Folk or Ancestral Teaching handed down from the past, ETC.
3. Believe in Universalism: God is a DOLEFUL GRANDFATHER WHO LOVES EVERYONE AND ALMOST ALL PEOPLE WILL BE IN HEAVEN- only a small percentage of the most wicked will be in hell.
THE GOSPEL OF OPRAH!
4. Believe God is a strict taskmaster: Heaven must be EARNED by our GOOD DEEDS - almost no one will be GOOD ENOUGH TO GO TO HEAVEN.
5. Believe in Judgement Day according to Scriptural Teaching.

*****DOES IT REALLY MATTER AT ALL ABOUT POLLS, PERSONAL OPINIONS, or PERSONAL BELIEFS??? NO, NO, NO, A THOUSAND TIMES NO!***

Today, our world thinks about the Judgement of God by:

- ***Polls – what a majority of people think on almost anything, THAT’S THE WAY IT HAS TO BE!***
- ***Feelings – I don’t feel that MY GOD would judge and send anyone to hell!***
- ***Opinions – the problem with opinions is, EVERYONE CAN HAVE A DIFFERENT OPINION!***

Examples of the GREAT FLOOD and Sodom & Gomorrah TEACH US THAT GOD DOESN’T OPERATE BY PERSONAL OPINIONS, TAKE SURVEY POLLS, OR ACCEPT OTHER RELIGIOUS BELIEFS! [in the Great Flood- only 8 people were saved– Sodom and Gomorrah- only 3]

II. THE BIBLE IS OUR ONLY TRUE SOURCE ON THE SUBJECT OF JUDGEMENT DAY **WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ON THE SUBJECT:**

THE BIBLE DECLARES God has a system in place that will separate the righteous from the wicked: IT IS CALLED JUDGEMENT!

Matthew 25:31-46 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 divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. **Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand,** Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. **Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand,** Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee. Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

III. Three Types of Judgment

(1). World/Nations –The End-times or LAST DAYS are upon us... world judgments of nations may be in progress even as we speak today??

THE BEST EXAMPLE OF GOD’S JUDGEMENT ON THE WORLD IS THE GREAT FLOOD

GOD’S JUDGEMENT AGAINST NATIONS in ISAIAH, JEREMIAH, EZEKIEL, AMOS, OBADIAH

○ **Isaiah 34:1-3** Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it. For the indignation of the LORD is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter. Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcases, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood.

○ **Jeremiah 46–51:** *God’s judgment* on 10 nations - Egypt, Philistia, Moab, Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Kedar, Hazor, Elam, and Babylon

○ **Ezekiel 25–32:** *God’s judgment* on Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Tyre, Sidon, and Egypt

○ **Amos 1–2:** *God’s judgment* on Damascus, Gaza, Tyre, Edom, Ammon, and Moab

○ **Obadiah 1:** *God’s judgment* on Edom for pride and violence against Israel

Also, nations will be judged in the future: Joel 3:1-2 For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

(2). Sinners – THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT

Acts 17:22-23,28,31-32 Then Paul stood in the midst of **Mars' hill**, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD...For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring....**Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.** And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter.

Revelations 20:11-15 *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. And 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. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

(3). Saints - THE JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

○ **KING SOLOMON speaking about Judgement** - **Ecclesiasts 12:13-14** Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

○ **PAUL speaking about Judgement** – **(our TEXT) II Corinthians 5:10-15** 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*. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men...

Romans 2:6-11 Who (GOD) will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: For there is no respect of persons with God.

○ **JESUS speaking about Judgement** – **Matthew 16:27** For the 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.

WARNING to the Church in Revelation 22:10-12 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and **my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**

IV. Why Did God Create Judgement Day?

1. **He is the CREATOR** – *He gets to choose how things are DESIGNED – (it's His Universe)*
2. **Free Will creates choices** – *CHOICES CONSTITUTE CONSEQUENCES and REWARDS!*

3. As a screen to keep out those who would contaminate heaven - **Revelation 21:27** And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

4. To right the wrong created by some – a DAY OF RECKONING for those who have hurt the innocent and the meek -- different levels of punishment for the wicked (Jesus – it is better to be cast in the sea with a milestone around your neck than to offend a little on who believes in Me)

5. To reward those who do good deeds

V. How will the Saints be Judged?

1) **Personally – this thought is what made Felix tremble – (OUR TEXT) - And as he (Paul) reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled.**

A Personal Judgement Day–No Lawyers-No Friends-No Crowds – only YOU & YOUR CREATOR!

2) **Thoroughly - Matthew 12:36-37** But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

3) **Justly - Impartial:** God does not show favoritism based on wealth, status, or outward appearances. **Omniscience:** Because God sees the hidden motives and true intentions of the heart, His verdicts are perfectly accurate. **Equity:** Divine judgment balances absolute justice with unwavering holiness, holding all individuals accountable for their actions (ref.: Google AI).

-- **No Excuses - No Lies to hide behind!**

With righteous judgement!

4) **With Unmerited Mercy and Unlimited Grace through Jesus Christ for our Sins**

Luke 6:36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

Judgment and Mercy: While God is a just judge, He is also merciful. The concept of substitutionary atonement, as explained in 2 Corinthians 5:21, illustrates how God can uphold justice while offering forgiveness through Jesus Christ. This duality highlights that God's justice does not negate His mercy (Ref.: GOOGLE AI)

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

5) **According to our Works** - Salvation is a free gift received through **faith in Jesus Christ**, not something earned by works. **However, works relate to rewards in heaven.** After accepting Christ, a believer's subsequent good works and faithful service are evaluated and rewarded by God. (Ref. GOOGLE AI)

I Corinthians 3:10-15 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and **the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work** abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. **If any man's work** shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but **he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.**

VI. Closing - Christ, our only hope for Judgement Day: Hebrews 9:27-28 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

I John 1:9-10 & 2:1 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, **we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:**

JUDGEMENT DAY IS COMING FOR EVERYONE! – ARE WE READY? – ARE YOU READY?