

Four Great Commission Judgments

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I. Introduction.

- A. There is a common misconception that there will be one final judgment.
- B. There are four judgments: of Christians, of Jews, of Gentiles, and the Great White Throne Judgment.
- C. First, there must be the rapture and resurrection of the church. Then there must be seven years of tribulation. Then Jesus will return and establish a 1000-year kingdom after binding Satan. At the end, Christ will permit Satan to go free.

II. The judgment of Christians. (I Corinthians 3:11 on, I Corinthians 4, II Corinthians 5)

- A. Everyone who comes to this judgment is saved—therefore, this is the judgment of Christians.
- B. This is the *bema* seat of Christ. (II Corinthians 5:10)
- C. It takes place when Christ comes. (II Corinthians 4:5)
- D. Christians shall be judged to evaluate their good works.
- E. There is a world of difference between good works—the earthly reward matters.
- F. No sin will be brought before Christ because all sins are paid for by Christ.
- G. Every man's works will be manifest.
 - 1. Each man will be judged individually.
 - 2. All a person's motives in the good works will be revealed. (II Corinthians 5:10)
 - 3. It will be a quality test.
- H. The results will be a reward, which is likely a deeper appreciation of heaven or a better ability to reflect God's glory. (I Corinthians 4:5)
- I. Our present responsibility is to be well pleasing to God and to persuade men that our motives are honest. (II Corinthians 5:9-10)

III. The judgment of living Jews. (Ezekiel 20)

- A. The judgment will take place at the border of Israel.
- B. The Jews will fall into God's judgment to see who will enter into God's kingdom and who will not.

IV. The judgment of living Gentiles. (Matthew 25)

- A. All the nations will be judged—sheep, goats and brethren.
- B. The point is to determine who will go into the kingdom and who will not.
- C. The brethren are the product of special missionaries sent out by God who are the 144,000 Jews. (Matthew 24:14, Revelation 7)

V. The final judgment. (Revelation 20)

- A. This will be the judgment of the lost.
- B. It happens after the Millennium.
- C. The purpose of the judgment is to determine degrees of judgment that will fall upon them.
- D. Guilt is determined by what is written in books that record a person's works.
- E. Christ became sin and was judged for the believer, so he will not be condemned.

Application questions:

1. What will be judged at the Christian judgment?

2. Why are some good works different in quality from others?

3. Does a person's evil works matter if they are not going to heaven anyway? Explain.
