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Section: Doctrine of the Last Things and Eternity (Eschatology)

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**HANDOUT NOTES**

**Q117. What is the final judgment?**

God has appointed a day in which He will righteously judge the world by Jesus Christ, in Whom is all power and judgment. On that day, the fallen angels and all people who were conceived to life will appear before the judgment seat of Christ to give an account of all their thoughts, words, and deeds—whether good or evil. God's purpose for this day is for the manifestation of the glory, both of His merciful grace in the eternal salvation of the elect and of His justice in the eternal damnation of the reprobate.

* **God Has Appointed a Day in Which He Will Righteously Judge the World by Jesus Christ, in Whom Is All Power and Judgment**

**Acts 17:16-34**

**2 Corinthians 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

**John 5:27** “And he [the Father] has given him [Jesus] authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.”

**Ephesians 1:20-22** that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church

* **On That Day, The Fallen Angels and All People Who Were Conceived to Life Will Appear Before the Judgment Seat of Christ to Give an Account of All Their Thoughts, Words, and Deeds—Whether Good or Evil**

**Romans 14:10-12** Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.” So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

If we have a biblical command to do something in a specific way, we must see that this is not a **freedom** or **weakness of conscious** issue; rather, it is a command to do something in a specific way.

If it’s a command, then we need to change our conscious opinion about it and be obedient to our Lord.

For all those given to Him by the Father, the Lord Jesus has fully satisfied the justice of God, obtained reconciliation, and purchased an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven. Christ has accomplished these things by His perfect obedience and sacrifice of Himself.

**Hebrews 13:17** Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

**Matthew 25:14-30**

**Ecclesiastes 12:14** For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

**Matthew 12:36** "I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak"

**Jude 6** And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day

* **God's Purpose for This Day Is for the Manifestation of the Glory, Both of His Merciful Grace in the Eternal Salvation of the Elect and of His Justice in the Eternal Damnation of the Reprobate**

**Matthew 25:31-34, 41, 46** “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place **the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world’**... **41**Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

**Reprobate:** 1. to condemn strongly as unworthy, unacceptable, or evil; 2. to foreordain to damnation

**Romans 9:22-24** **What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,** in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory—even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?

**Romans 9:6-23**

**Ephesians 1:3-6** blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

**Revelation 13:8; 20:15**

**1689 Confession of Faith**: “God has appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ, to whom all power and judgment is given by the Father. In that day, the apostate angels will be judged. So also, all people who have lived on the earth will appear before the judgment seat of Christ, to give an account of their thoughts, words, and deeds and to receive a reckoning according to what they have done in the body, whether good or evil.

God’s purpose for appointing this day is to manifest the glory of his mercy in the eternal salvation of the elect, and of his justice in the eternal damnation of the reprobate, who are wicked and disobedient. For at that time the righteous will go into everlasting life and receive fullness of joy and glory with everlasting rewards in the presence of the Lord. But the wicked, who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of Jesus Christ, will be thrown into everlasting torments and punished with everlasting destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power.

“Christ desires that we be firmly convinced that a day of judgment will come, both to deter everyone from sin and to comfort the godly more fully in their adversity.  For this reason, he has determined to keep the day secret, to encourage people to shake off any fleshly security and always to be watchful, because they do not know the hour when the Lord will come and so that they may always be prepared to say, ‘Come Lord Jesus; come quickly. Amen.’”

**Matthew 25:1-13** “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

**Psalm 16:11** ... in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.