**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Final Judgment |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Revelation 20:11-15 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2213 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
	1. Jesus saves, but there are many who are not saved.
		1. If they die without Jesus, then they will be lost for all eternity.
	2. Hell is not a fairy tale or a figment of the imagination.
		1. Hell is very real.
	3. There is coming a judgment.
		1. There is coming a time when God will put the final period upon the final sentence upon the final paragraph upon the final page upon the final chapter upon the final book of history as we know it.
		2. Time as we have known it will come to a conclusion.
		3. The dead will rise to be judged.
			1. One by one, they will stand before the Lord Jesus Christ and face the final judgment.
	4. Revelation 20:11-15
		1. God gave the apostle John a vision of the final judgment.
		2. This is God’s Word; totally true, fully inspired, and God’s message for our generation today is that there is a judgment coming.
	5. Hebrews 9:27
		1. It is appointed for every unsaved person to have a date with Deity.
			1. They will stand before Almighty God and will be judged.
	6. In today’s message, we will look at four things concerning the coming judgment.
2. the setting describeD
	1. Revelation 20:11
		1. We are talking about a trial.
		2. The setting is like a courtroom.
			1. The throne
				1. Revelation 20:11

There is a bench or throne, and it is great and white.

The greatness speaks of the power of it.

The whiteness speaks of the purity of it.

The word “throne” speaks of the purpose on it because a Sovereign is sitting upon this great, white throne.

* + - * 1. Those who stand before the great white throne are eternally condemned.
			1. The Judge is Jesus Christ.
				1. Revelation 20:11

Jesus Christ will be the Judge in eternity.

The Lord Jesus will be the one sitting upon the throne.

* + - * 1. Not only is Jesus the Savior, but He is also the Judge.

John 5:22

Jesus Christ Himself is the Judge, not your opinion of yourself or that of your friends or family.

* + - * 1. Jesus is described in the Bible as both a Lamb and a Lion.

He is both a Judge and a Savior.

You will meet Him as either a Lamb or a Lion.

You will meet Him as either Judge or Savior, but you will meet Him.

Jesus is the unavoidable, inescapable person in your life.

You may have cursed Him, mocked Him, ignored Him, or debated Him, but one day you are going to meet Him.

* + - * 1. Revelation 1:13-16

The Apostle John has a vision and sees the exalted Christ.

In verse 13, the word “paps” means “chest.”

The Lord Jesus is wearing the regal robes of a king and a judge.

His hair, which is white as wool, speaks of His unsullied and absolute purity.

His eyes are like a flame of fire, which means that He not only sees you but also sees through you.

He knows all about you.

Hebrews 4:13

He cannot be deceived, discredited, or disputed.

His feet are like fine brass.

In the Bible, brass is a symbol of judgment.

He is going on relentlessly to judge; He is unstoppable.

His voice is like the sound of many waters.

When He speaks, it is like 100 cascading waterfalls.

Can you imagine anyone arguing with Niagara Falls?

* + - * 1. The Bible says that from His presence, the Earth and Heavens fled away.

Revelation 20:11

This means that everything stable is gone.

Everything that people have depended upon and looked to is gone.

Adam fled to hide from God in the trees of the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 3:8

There will be no garden trees in which to hide.

1. the summons delivered
	1. God is going to send out a summons to gather those to be judged.
	2. Revelation 20:12-13
		1. When God sends out His summons, He doesn’t have to get an extradition from death and Hell.
		2. When He says “Come,” they will come.
		3. It does not matter how insignificant or how powerful you think you are.
			1. Without Jesus Christ, you will stand before God.
	3. Who will be called to the judgment?
		1. The out and out sinner.
			1. They hate God, hate Christ, hate the Bible, and hate preachers.
				1. They mock and make fun.
			2. There are people in this world who will shake their fists boldly and brazenly in the face of God; they will not bow down to Him.
		2. The self-righteous.
			1. They think that because they are not out and out sinners that they are Heaven-bound.
			2. They think that the Gospel is for the thief, the murderer, the drunkard, but not for them.
			3. They are nice people, and they are members of fine clubs.
			4. They treat others well.
			5. They do not think that they need to be saved.
				1. They are righteous in and of themselves.
				2. They do not understand that the Bible says that it is not by works of righteousness that we have done, but by His mercy that He saves us.

Titus 3:5

Isaiah 64:6

* + - * 1. Many people are egomaniacs strutting to Hell, thinking they are too good to be damned.
				2. The worst form of badness is human goodness when it becomes a substitute for the new birth.
		1. The procrastinators.
			1. They know that they are sinners and that they need to be saved, and they have determined that they will not die and go to Hell.
			2. They intend to get saved - someday.
			3. The devil will always tell you not to do it today, that there will be a better time.
				1. Proverbs 27:1
				2. Proverbs 29:1
				3. You dare not presume upon tomorrow.

Tomorrow is only a time that is on the fool’s calendar.

James 4:14

* + - 1. There are many procrastinators who intend one day to get saved, but who will die and go to Hell, having never been saved.
		1. Lost church members.
			1. These are they who have been duped by religion.
			2. They are not procrastinators because they think it is all settled.
			3. They somehow have religion, but they do not have Jesus Christ.
			4. They’re religious, have joined a church, and have been baptized.
				1. The devil would just as soon send you to Hell from a church pew as he had from the gutter; it makes no difference to him.
				2. There are many people who get their names on the church roll, but never have their names written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Revelation 20:15

* + - 1. The church is not the way to Heaven.
				1. The church is the sign that points to Heaven.
				2. The church is only a signpost telling us to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.
			2. How sad for someone who sang in the choir, who served the Lord’s Supper, or worked in the church to die and go to Hell.
				1. Those who helped Noah build the ark drowned.
				2. Many will go to Hell because they are counting on their religiosity to get them to Heaven, but they have never repented of their sins and put their faith in Jesus Christ.

They give lip service to it, but they have never been born again.

* + 1. Those who have never heard the Gospel.
			1. They have never heard the saving message of Jesus Christ.
			2. While they do not have enough light to save them, they do have enough sin to condemn them.
				1. They are sinners, and they will be judged.
			3. Is it fair for God to let somebody die and go to Hell who has never heard the Gospel?
				1. Some may ask, “Aren’t they saved if they don’t hear?”

The bigger question is, are you saved if you do not tell them?

* + - 1. The Bible teaches that those without Jesus Christ are going to be judged, but they are not going to be judged the same way that we will be judged.
				1. Luke 12:47-48

If those who have never heard the Word of God are going to stand and be judged, then what is going to happen to those who knew the Master’s will and did it not?

* + - 1. Revelation 20:12-13
	1. Notice when God gives the summons, the places from which they are called:
		1. Death has the body.
			1. When the unsaved die, death comes after the body and carries it down to the grave to disintegration.
			2. But there is a part that doesn’t go to the grave, but it goes to a place called Hell.
				1. This is a translation of the Greek word “Hades.”
				2. It is the place where the departed dead go to await the judgment.
		2. If the unsaved are already in Hell, then why are they taken out of Hell to be judged?
			1. Because it is Hades and not the lake of fire; they are going to be cast into the lake of fire.
				1. What is the difference?

Suppose a person commits a crime and is indicted by the Grand Jury.

He is so dangerous that the judge will not grant bond.

He is put into the county jail and held there until he is judged.

He is taken out of that jail, judged, and then put into the penitentiary.

The lake of fire is the eternal penitentiary.

* + 1. Death has the body, and Hell has the soul where it waits until the final judgment.
			1. They cannot be judged now because it is not finished yet.
				1. Their influence upon others is still ongoing and will not stop until it reaches the shores of eternity.
				2. God has to wait until it is all over and all the facts are in.
1. the secrets displayed
	1. Revelation 20:12-13
	2. God is keeping books.
		1. He is recording the secret things that nobody else knows about.
			1. Ecclesiastes 12:14
			2. Romans 2:16
	3. There are secrets that have been forgotten and repressed.
		1. You tried to put them out of your consciousness.
		2. You think, perhaps, that the statute of limitations has taken them all away.
			1. But God has kept the books.
	4. God knows it all.
		1. God has a candid camera and has those things that you have long forgotten.
	5. Matthew 12:36
		1. Some have taken God’s name in vain.
			1. They have taken the precious name of Jesus and mixed it with filth and blasphemed the God of Heaven.
				1. It may have been forgotten, but it is written down.
			2. Romans 14:11
			3. Exodus 20:7
				1. That one sin would be enough to condemn someone forever.
				2. Maybe nothing was meant by it, but that is the sin of it.

If anyone can take the name of Almighty God in an oath and say that they didn’t mean anything by it, then that shows how little God means to them.

* 1. Luke 12:2-3
	2. One of these days, God’s candid camera will begin to play, and the unsaved will be standing there to face the record.
1. the sentence determined
	1. Revelation 20:13-15
	2. The sureness of it.
		1. They were judged.
			1. This Judge will not be bribed, and there will be no one who can get you out of it.
		2. God swears by Himself that you will be judged.
			1. Romans 14:11-12
	3. The severity of it.
		1. The Bible says that you will be judged according to your works.
			1. Revelation 20:13
			2. We are not saved by works.
			3. We are saved by grace, but we are judged by works.
			4. This means that there is no mercy.
				1. Do not get the wrong idea that when you die that you will stand before God and throw yourself on the mercy of the court.

There will be no mercy.

If you want mercy, you may have it.

If you want forgiveness, you may have it.

If you want grace, it is freely offered to you.

But you must have it now, in this day and in this age.

* + 1. Hebrews 10:28-31
			1. If those who despised the Old Testament Mosaic Law were judged without mercy, then how much worse of a punishment will there be for those who ridiculed Jesus and trampled beneath their feet His precious blood?
				1. Everyone will either be under the blood with their sins forgiven, or over the blood as they trample the blood of Jesus beneath their feet.
			2. If you say that you do not want God and do not want to be saved, then there will be no pleading for mercy at the judgment.
		2. Hebrews 9:27
			1. This passage says nothing of mercy.
	1. There are three parts in every trial:
		1. The evidence is presented; the books are opened.
			1. Your deeds are evidence.
				1. Every lie.
				2. Every curse.
				3. Everything you stole.
				4. Every gray hair and wrinkle that you gave to your parents.
				5. Every infidelity.
			2. Your thoughts are evidence.
				1. God wrote down lust as adultery.
				2. God wrote down hatred as murder.
			3. Your influence is evidence.
				1. Not only what you did, but those whom you influenced to do wrong.
			4. Your failure to do good is evidence.
				1. James 4:17
				2. The great light that you had and rejected.
			5. The evidence will be presented against you.
		2. You make your defense.
			1. Will you say, “There were too many churches to choose from?”
				1. He didn’t say believe on the church.
				2. He said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.”

Acts 16:31

* + - 1. Will you say, “There were some hypocrites in the church?”
				1. He didn’t say to believe on the hypocrite.
				2. Acts 16:31
			2. Will you say, “What about some of those preachers?”
				1. He didn’t say believe on the preacher.
				2. Acts 16:31
			3. Will you say, “I wanted to wait until I was sure that I could live it?”
				1. He didn’t say to believe on yourself.
				2. Acts 16:31
			4. Will you say, “I did not have time?”
				1. He will say, “You had time that morning when My servant preached to you.”
			5. If your defense does not even satisfy you, how can you expect it to satisfy a righteous and a holy God?
		1. The verdict is handed down.
			1. The recording angel asks the Lord Jesus what should be written down.
			2. A broken-hearted Savior will say, “He that denies Me before men, the same must I deny before My Father, which is in Heaven. Write ‘lost’.”
				1. Matthew 10:33
			3. The names of the unsaved are not in the Book of Life.
			4. The unsaved will find their souls dropping into Hell.
				1. Not that God desires it.
	1. C.S. Lewis said that there are two categories of people:
		1. Those who follow Satan and say to God, “Not Your will, but mine be done.”
		2. Those who follow Jesus and say, “Not my will, but Thine be done.”
			1. When the first category drops into Hell, a broken-hearted God will say, “Not My will, but thine be done.”
				1. God gives everyone the privilege of choosing their destiny.
				2. Revelation 20:15
1. CONCLUSION
	1. You do not have to stand before the great white throne.
		1. You can settle out of court.
		2. You can give your heart to Jesus Christ today.
	2. Upon the cross, Jesus Christ took your sin and your judgment.
		1. Romans 8:1
		2. The fires of God’s judgment fell upon Jesus at Calvary, and that is where you need to stand.
			1. The fire cannot come where the fire has already been.
	3. Jesus died for you, and He loves you.
	4. He invites you to get it settled today.
	5. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	6. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
		1. Romans 3:23
		2. Romans 10:9-10
		3. Romans 10:13
		4. Acts 16:31
		5. John 3:16