From Whence He Shall Come to Judge the Living and the Dead

Matthew 25: 31-46

Difficulty 1 - It's everything else we've said we believe has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_happened. "We're going to stake our \_\_\_\_\_\_ and our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in something that hasn't happened yet."

Difficulty 2 - It's judgment. That idea of being judged, whether it's personally or whether it's through an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ figure, judgment is not something we get excited about.

Two areas we push back against as Bible believing disciples of Christ:

1. Fatalism. Fatalism is this idea that, because everything in the future is determined. "I'm \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. There's nothing I can do. “

2. Hedonism. It would be this idea that life is composed of trying to get the most \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ possible and avoiding \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The question I am going to answer is the \_\_\_\_ question. I'm going to answer the question of…\_\_\_\_\_ is this important? What do the return of Christ and the subsequent judgment reveal about His character and His nature to us?

Jesus is actually responding to a question from His disciples. "Hey, how do we know You're going to return? How do we know these are going to be the signs of the end of the age?"

What's revealed in the return of Christ is His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

"At the end of this period, at the end of this age, when I return, I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them, and I'm going to separate them \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. There is not going to be a mistake."

He turns to the ones on the right, and He says to them, "\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…" "Come into the kingdom. Come into My favour." You have been blessed by My Father to inherit the kingdom. Because of My death, you have been given a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. You've inherited the kingdom that's been prepared for you before the foundations of the world."

The King who is the Judge who is sitting in glory on His throne associates himself with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Then the other side of the conversation. Those who were on the left, it's not an invitation to come, but instead it's a command to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Then look at how He separates. The left goes into eternal punishment. It's not this temporary slap on the wrist but an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ link, an eternal consequence, an eternal weight is the punishment. For those who were faithful, they receive life.

Application:

1. Creates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in our hearts. We have a merciful Judge who is looking to us and giving us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

We have a \_\_\_\_\_\_ Judge. I think it's important for our hearts to know He is just. He is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to punish sin. If sin were to go unnoticed and unpunished and not dealt with, He would not be just.

2. Creates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. How does this create clarity of how we see the Lord? Christ takes no pleasure in the destruction of the wicked. We see this theme over and again in Scripture.

3. Creates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Notice in this text not only seeing all of the angels but all of the nations, all of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, all of the people surrounding the throne.

"Our family is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bigger than we thought it was."

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our counsel. I think it shapes us in our counsel in two ways.

 First, look at the magnitude of the practical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Is He not clearly teaching that practical obedience is important?

Second, it's a call for us to be serious about the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the kingdom.

There are calls to be in season and out of season, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to preach the good news of the Son of Man coming to close the gap between God and man.

For us, I think the question that needs to happen here is … How do we, those

who are sitting in the seats, be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to proclaim? I hope this encourages you to \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_ for the day of His return and that you will stand united with Christ in front of a merciful Judge who will say, "Come inherit the kingdom."

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