

Eternity | Anchored

WEEK TWELVE | PASTOR **BOB JOHNSTON**

Final Judgement & Eternity

The Great White Throne

- ◇ Throne: A place of absolute authority
- ◇ Great: (v. 11, 12)
- ◇ White: Purity (Psalm 9:7-8)
- ◇ Jesus is Judge (John 5:22)

The Nature of the Judgment

- ◇ The people at the great white throne judgment are already condemned. (John 3:18)
- ◇ You will be judged according to what you have done.
- ◇ (Revelation 20:12, Luke 12:2-3, Rom 1:21-23).

The punishment will not be the same for everyone. (Revelation 20:13, Matthew 11:21-24, Luke 12:47-48)

The sentencing – the penalty of sin without Christ.

- ◇ Hell is the place where the common grace of God no longer exists.
- ◇ Hell exists because God is a God of justice.

God does not desire anyone to go to hell. (Luke 16:25)

- ◇ Child: 'Teknon' is an endearing, beautiful word parents would call their children.
- ◇ Hell was "prepared for the devil and His angels"
- ◇ Those who trust in Christ will not face the Great White Throne Judgment.

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 13:1-2
 Revelation 6:9-10
 Ecclesiastes 12:14
 Hebrews 9:27
 Revelation 20:10-15
 Psalm 9:7-8
 John 5:22
 John 3:18

QUOTES

"An offense against God requires a just punishment."

"The issue is not simply the nature of the sin or the sinner, but the one being sinned against."

KNOW

GROW | Small Group Questions

Warm up: Can you share about a time when you were treated unjustly or judged incorrectly? And/or when have you mistakenly misjudged someone?

1. Discussing God and judgement can be difficult. Have you ever felt it was hard to connect with God because God felt too judgmental? What shaped that idea of God for you?
2. Pastor Ben mentioned that in a fallen world, goodness, beauty and truth have been violated by pride, greed, and arrogance. Do you agree with this statement? Provide some examples you see, hear, or read about.
3. We all desire justice. We hear cries for justice all around us. The bible teaches that Jesus will be the judge of all (John 5:22). Discuss:
 - a. How can we relate to Jesus as Judge, and how might that reorient how we are living out our faith and loving others?
 - b. What are areas of injustice that affect you personally? What are some areas which you would have to choose to engage with? What does it look like to engage with these areas of justice as a tangible way of living out your faith in Jesus?
4. The Day of Judgement is terrifying for those who are condemned, but to those who are found in Christ, we don't need to be afraid. In fact, Pastor Ben mentioned the good news of this day. Discuss why the Day of Judgement could be hopeful for believers.
5. The Great White Throne Judgement mentioned in the Book of Revelation

is a sentencing trial for those who are condemned (unbelievers). This is a dreadful event where actions against God (sin) are exposed. Read Revelation 20 together as a group. Take a few moments to reflect and discuss verses 11-15.

GO

This is a difficult topic for many people. The severity of God's judgement and the eternal punishment of Hell is something we should consider carefully. Pastor Ben mentioned that even if we lived a seemingly good life, yet rejected God, we are condemned. The only thing that saves us from the consequence of sin (eternal separation from God) is believing in His Son Jesus, and the work of the cross.

The suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Saviour made salvation available for all. This is God's great gift to the world, that Jesus took upon Himself the weight and penalty of our sin, and those who believe in Him and His sacrifice are forever saved. This is the Good News of the Gospel. It's completely free, all are welcome to believe...yet it cost God so much.

This week, ask Holy Spirit to burden your heart with names of unsaved loved ones. Write these names down on a piece of paper and keep it near you. Spend time each day this week to pray specifically and earnestly for these individuals... and believe that God, our Great Saviour, is able to save even the chiefest of sinners.

Develop this as an ongoing practice in your prayer life. Don't give up praying for your unsaved loved ones. God loves them more than any of us could ever imagine (John 3:16).

