

## Renewed Unity Judgment

Certain topics create unease with people. Judgment is one such topic. It really ought not cause unease, however. Judgment is essential to the reality we Christians profess. God exists. There is an all-powerful, all-knowing, all-good, eternal, necessary, and triune being. He is perfect. His name is Yahweh and He created the universe. He created mankind in His image, yet humanity misses the mark of God's perfection—humans sin. Sin damages the relationship we have with our Creator. The wages of sin is death. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. It is right that the giver of life hold His creatures accountable for their actions. Judgment of death and separation holds sinful man to account. Yet, Yahweh also loves us. He wants us to live eternally with Him, not be separated from Him in death. So Yahweh the Father sent Yahweh the Son to live as a man, to die in our place, and to be raised again to life. The Father and Son sent Yahweh the Spirit to dwell in all who believe/place faith in Jesus (Yahweh the Son). Judgment will be very different for Spirit-filled followers of Jesus and for unbelievers.

**Topic:** Judgment is coming.

- On what basis does God judge? (Read Psalm 9:7-8 and Romans 2:5-7)
- Which person of the Trinity will actually sit in judgment of humanity? (Read John 5:22-29 and 2 Corinthians 5:10)
- Will judgment result in an ethereal reality or a physical one? (Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-53)
- When will Jesus return to judge us? (Read Matthew 24:42-44 and Titus 2:11-13)
- Why would God be an unjust judge if there was no hell?
- We have an earthly citizenship, but also another citizenship. Read Philippians 3:20-21. What does it mean to be citizens of heaven?

**Association:** What are your thoughts and attendant feelings about heaven and hell?

- Do you think about heaven and hell often?
- Is hell distasteful to you?
- Have you ever heard someone say that hell is not everlasting or bring up annihilationism? Annihilationism is the idea that after a time in hell, people are snuffed out of existence.
- Do you think that hell is just? How would you explain the justice of hell to someone?
- Do you long for heaven? What aspects of heaven intrigue you the most? (Read Revelation 21:1-8)
- What are the best books you've read about heaven? Have you read Randy Alcorn's book *Heaven*?
- What view of the end times do you hold? What is essential regarding the end times and what is non-essential?

**Guidance:** Share with one another your best tips and techniques to invite people to follow Jesus or to attend church that appropriately address judgment. Share with one another those for whom you are praying that they will place faith in Jesus.

-Pray with and for one another to understand the deep realities of divine judgment. Pray also for those you are inviting to become Christians.