

## **Facing the Last Enemy**

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June 14, 2026

### **Introduction**

We've defined death and thought about encountering death biblically; now we'll think about what lies beyond death biblically. This is part of the Good News: Death is not the last word. This week...

### **What Does the Bible Teach About the Final Judgment?**

The Final Judgment is different than the judgment that occurs at death (Heb 9:27). The verdict is the same, but it is public and cosmic, with no other judgment to follow.

The Final Judgment is essential to the Gospel

- It impresses on the hearers the seriousness of the issue (Acts 24:24-25; Rom 2:15-16)

What does the Bible say about the Final Judgment?

- God will gather all wicked angels (Jude 6) and all humans, living and dead (Mt 25:32)
- It will take place immediately after the bodily resurrection (2 Cor 5:10)
- God has committed both salvation and judgment to the Son (Acts 17:30-31)
- Those with knowledge will be judged by God's Word, and the ignorant and unreached according to their conscience (Rom 2:12-16)
- The wicked will be judged then punished in proportion to their sin
- The righteous will be openly acknowledged and acquitted (Mt 10:32, 25:34), while still giving an account (Rom 14:12; 2 Cor 5:10)

Why will believers in Christ stand before God in judgment?

- To stir us to holiness, wean us from sin, and commit our cause to God (2 Pet 3:11, 14; 2 Thess 1:5-10)
- To resolve issues between believers so we can enjoy unhindered fellowship and joy together
- To receive our reward
- Don't fear the Final Judgment. Our Judge is the one who saved us, and it is by His righteousness we are justified