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THE DAILY JUDGMENT OF GOD'S GOVERNMENT

First Peter 1:17 says, "And if you call upon as Father the One who without respect of persons judges according to each one's work, pass the time of your sojourning in fear." Peter "is not speaking of the final judgment of the soul. In that sense 'the Father does not judge anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son' (John 5:22). The thing spoken of here is the daily judgment of God's government in this world, exercised with regard to His children. Accordingly it says, 'the time of your sojourning' here" (Darby). This is God's judgment on His own household (1 Pet. 4:17).

Since these two Epistles are concerned with the government of God, the judgment of God and of the Lord is referred to repeatedly (2:23; 4:5-6, 17; 2 Pet. 2:3-4, 9; 3:7), as one of the essential items. It began from the angels (2 Pet. 2:3-4), and passed through the generations of man in the Old Testament (2 Pet. 2:5-9). Then in the New Testament age it begins from the house of God (1:17, 4:6, 17) and continues until the coming of the day of the Lord (2 Pet. 3:10), which will be a day of judgment on the Jews, the believers, and the Gentiles before the millennium. After the millennium, all the dead, including men and demons, will be judged and perish (1 Pet. 4:5; 2 Pet. 3:7), and the heavens and the earth will be burned up (2 Pet. 3:10b, 12). The results of the varied judgments are not the same. Some judgments result in a disciplinary dealing, some in a dispensational punishment, and some in eternal perdition. However, by all these judgments the Lord God will clear up and purify the entire universe, that He may have a new heaven and a new earth for a new universe filled with His righteousness (2 Pet.. 3:13) for His delight.

The fear spoken of in 1:17 is a holy fear, as in Philippians 2:12. It is a healthy, serious caution for us to behave holily. Such fear is mentioned a number of times in this book (2:17, 18; 3:2, 15) because its teaching concerns the government of God.

We need to be impressed by the fact that God's government differs in dispensation. There are different judgments for different cases, and these judgments have different results. It is important for us to realize that, in Darby's words, the judgment in 1:17 is not "the final judgment of the soul." As John 5:22 reveals, that judgment has been given to the Son. What we have in 1:17 is the daily judgment of God's government in the world, a judgment that is exercised with regard to His children. This is not the final judgment at the white throne, but the daily judgment of God in the world. The daily judgment of God is not exercised upon fallen sinners; instead, it is exercised upon God's children.

Those who oppose this teaching from the Word may say, "How is it possible for us, God's children in grace, to be judged by God? God is our Father, and He loves us and gives us grace. How could He do something to judge us?" Because the truth of God's judgment is opposed in this way, I am burdened that we all grasp the pure thought regarding it in the Bible. Today all of us are under God's judgment. God is not only gracing us, giving us grace. He is also judging us. This is the reason we have many sufferings. We have sufferings because God is judging us. On the one hand, God is gracing us to live a life that suits His righteousness under His government. On the other hand, He judges anything that does not match His government. Therefore, in this age we the believers are under the daily judgment of God.

Darby points out that because the judgment in 1:17 is the daily judgment of God's government exercised with regard to His children, this verse speaks of passing the time of our sojourning in fear. This kind of judgment is exercised upon us, the children of God, while we are passing the time of our sojourning on earth. Therefore, this judgment is not in the future; it is a judgment that we experience today. The Lord's word in John 5:22 refers to eternal judgment, to the judgment of unbelievers at the white throne. But the judgment here is the present judgment of God upon His children, not on unbelievers.

In the Old Testament God judged the fallen angels, He judged the earth at the time of Noah, and He judged the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. He also judged the children of Israel in the wilderness. We have seen that in the New Testament God's judgment begins from the house of God. This means that God's judgment begins with us, that is, with the church including all the saints. God's governmental judgment has already begun. It was being carried out even during the time of the apostles. This judgment will continue until the coming of the day of the Lord.

The day of the Lord is mentioned both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament. According to the Bible, the day of the Lord will be a day of judgment, not a day of saving. The whole world has gone away from God. Gradually the Lord has been carrying out His judgment. But a day of His final judgment will come. At that day God will judge everyone. Three categories of people are included in God's judgment: the Jews, the church people, and the worldly people. God's judgment has been carried out for thousands of years, and it will continue to be carried out until the final judgment as the day of the Lord. Eventually, God will judge each of the three categories of people. He will judge the Jews, all the Christians, and then all the unbelievers. Do not think that because you are a Christian you will escape the judgment of God. Concerning God's judgment, there is

After the millennium, all the dead, including men and demons, will be judged at the white throne. That will be the final judgment for eternal perdition. After that judgment has been carried out, the heavens and the earth will be burned up and the new heaven and the new earth will appear.

THE RESULTS OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF JUDGMENT

Disciplinary Dealing

We have seen that the results of the different kinds of judgments are not the same. Certain judgments result in a disciplinary dealing. This is true of the judgments we experience today. Persecution, trouble, and illness are God's judgments resulting in a disciplinary dealing in this age.

Dispensational Punishment

Other judgments result in dispensational punishment. Dispensational punishment refers to punishment during the thousand years, during the millennial kingdom. The kingdom will be a dispensation. Defeated Christians will suffer a punishment during the coming age. That will be a dispensational punishment.

According to the Gospel of Matthew, some believers will suffer during the dispensation of the kingdom in the coming age (Matt. 24 48-51; 25:24-30). For them, that period of time will be a time of darkness with the weeping and gnashing of teeth. Matthew 25 clearly indicates that when the Lord Jesus comes back, the faithful servants will be rewarded and the unfaithful ones will be punished. Some Bible teachers say that the unfaithful servants in Matthew 25 are false Christians, whereas the faithful ones are genuine Christians. This understanding is not logical nor correct. How could a false Christian be counted as a servant of the Lord? Furthermore, how could a false Christian be raptured to appear before the judgment seat of Christ? Instead of following the interpretation that the unfaithful servants are false Christians, we believe the pure Word of God. The Bible says that when the Lord Jesus comes back, we shall all stand before His judgment seat. In 2 Corinthians 5:10 Paul says clearly that we all shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive a reward according to what we have done. If we have done a faithful work, the Lord will give us a prize. But if we have been unfaithful and have failed the Lord, He will give us some kind of punishment. That will be a dispensational punishment during the millennium.

Eternal Perdition

Other judgments will result in eternal perdition. As we have seen, the judgment upon men and demons at the white throne will result in eternal perdition. Therefore, we can see three kinds of results of God's governmental judgment: disciplinary dealing, dispensational punishment, and eternal perdition.

Burdens for Church Prayer

- Our target for 2025, # of newly baptized 25 and # of attending prayer meeting 35
- Perfecting young working saints through shepherding
- Saints blending together to build up the Body in love
- Establish a prayer life individually and corporately
- Pursuing truth and growth in life to be in the reality of the kingdom.
- Spreading the kingdom of God by preaching the gospel at WVC campus and community.
- Build up container for receiving our next generation

Announcements

- Life-study of 1 Peter MSG 29, 30.
 - HWMR: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ, week 4
 - 5/20 (Tue.) Prayer meeting, 7:45pm, meeting hall.
 - 5/23-5/26 Memorial conference. Phoenix, AZ
- Nor Cal on-line conference schedule:

5/23 (Fri), 7:30PM	Message One
5/24 (Sat), 10:00AM/7:30PM	Message Two/Three
5/25 LD), 10:00AM/7:30PM	Message Four/Five
5/26 (Mon) , 10:00AM	Message Six

- 6/7 10am Lessons on small groups with br Minoru:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89326774993?pwd=MkJYVU00RW5gcTV0WmlhNU1NNE5PZz09>
- 6/7 Love Feast + Gospel meeting in English, Campbell meeting hall
- 6/16-20 Bible Camp FSCC. \$80/person
- 6/30-7/12 Semiannual NorCal Video training, Registration by 6/15
- 7/6-7/8 Hospitality for 6 saints from Taiwan.
- 7/20-25, SST at Sonoma State University, registration by 5/18, \$600/person
- Financial Giving:
PayPal/Zelle: churchincampbell@gmail.com
[Venmo @Churchin-Campbell](#)
- Church in Campbell bookroom account (PayPal/Zelle):
churchincampbellbooks@gmail.com