

# Transitions

- Transition from life into death – Hades –
- *it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, Heb. 9:27-28*
- Transition from Hades to Judgment – Resurrection
- *the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs (graves) will hear His voice and come forth – those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment (condemnation). Jn. 5:28-29*
- Transition into Eternal Destiny – Eternal Judgment
- *many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame and everlasting contempt. Dan 12:2*

# Eternal Judgment

- For the wicked it begins with:
- *indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek Rom. 2:8-10*
- and it ends in
- *“the lake of fire.” Rev. 20:15*
- For those who live faithful till death in the gospel:
- *glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek*  
Ends in a “*crown of life,*” and a “*city whose builder and maker is God.* Rev. 2:10; Heb. 11:10)

# Eternal Judgment

- Therefore, leaving the discussion of the **elementary principles of Christ**, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the **foundation** of **repentance** from dead works and of **faith** toward God, 2 of the doctrine of **baptisms**, of laying on of hands, of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**.  
Heb. 6:1-3

- A Foundation of Elementary Principles

- commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has **appointed a day** on which **He will judge the world** in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has **given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead**. Acts 17:30-31

# Jesus Described Eternal Judgment

• *When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left” Mt. 25:31-34 Rev 20:11-14*

• *I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, ... And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened... And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ...And they were judged, each one according to his works.*

# Eternal Judgment: All will Appear

- *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.” 2Cor. 5:10*
- *Eternal judgment what he has done.”*
- *Judged out of the things written in the books*

# Things Written in the Books

- *Give an account of every idle word* Mt. 12:36-37
- *the thoughts and intents of the heart ... all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.* ” Heb. 4:12-13
- *bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts.* 1Cor. 4:4
- *God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel,”* Rom. 2:16
- *nothing is secret that will not be revealed, nor anything hidden that will not be known and come to light.”* Lk. 8:17

# Input from Other Generations

- *The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here. The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.” Mt. 12:41-42*
- This is a very intriguing and yet difficult verse. If any think they can plead with God using ignorance or difficult circumstances. Others in more difficult circumstances can undo such sophistry and human wisdom???

# More Tolerable

- *"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. Mt 11:21-24*
- What does this mean?
- What does “more tolerable” encompass?

# More Tolerable

- *And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. 24 But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you." Mt 11:21-24*
- This fits exactly with the truth that in “*the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment, God ‘will render to each one according to his deeds’*” (Rom. 2:5-6).

# A Perplexing Dilemma

- When everyone is cast into the lake of fire, how can it be more tolerable for some than others?
- How can God “*render to each one according to his deeds,*” if everyone, regardless of what they have done, is rendered the exact same punishment?
- We can’t deny the clear words of Jesus
- *It will be more tolerable...*
- We can’t deny the clear words:
- *Everyone whose name is not written in the lamb’s book of life will be cast into the lake of fire*
- We have to find a way to harmonize and if we can’t, we have to believe both and wait.

# Under the Law of Moses

- Punishment always based on nature of the crime.
- There were degrees of punishment in the Law because God was just and fair.
- *16 If a false witness rises against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing, ... 19 you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother; so you shall put away the evil from among you. 21 Your eye shall not pity: life shall be for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. Deut 19:16-17*
- Do we expect the eternal judgment to be different?

# Under the Law of Moses

- *if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, 24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25 burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe. Ex 21:23-25*
- Will God suspend this type of fair and just punishment and give the same punishment to all?
- *For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. Matt 16:26-27*

# Many and Few Stripes

- *That servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. 18 But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. Lk. 12:47-48*
- *The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, 50 and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth." Matt 13:49-50*
- There is no contradiction. Scripture can't be broken. But it is not something we can harmonize.

# Render to Each According to his Deeds

- *in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, 6 who "will render to each one according to his deeds": 7 eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; 8 but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness — indignation and wrath, 9 tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; Rom 2:5-10*
- All Scripture must be harmonized to know the truth. We can't take any passage so far that it violates another passage.

# Each receives according to deeds

- *we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 2Cor. 5:10*
- More tolerable?
- Many Stripes?
- Few Stripes?
- Each according to his deeds and works?
- We know what this meant under the Law of Moses. We don't know under law of Christ at the eternal judgment.

# Two Concepts but No Consensus

- *the secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us. Deut. 29:29*
- *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. Prov 3:5-7*
- *that in us ye might learn not (to go) beyond the things which are written; that no one of you be puffed up for the one against the other. 1Cor 4:6*

# We Can't Go Beyond Scripture

- We have two different truths that we can't reconcile.
- We know that everyone whose name is not in the Lamb's book of life will be cast into the lake of fire.
- There is nowhere else for any of the wicked to go.
- The devil, his angels, and all those who practiced evil regardless of degree will also be there.
- Yet Jesus also revealed that it will more tolerable for some and some will be beaten with many and others with stripes?
- They are both true. Although we can't understand how this can be done, the Lord does.

# What we Must all Agree Upon

- Yet regardless of such perplexing questions one thing remains clear.
- *since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you,*
- *when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power” 2Th. 1:6-10*