

**Agape House of Worship
Midweek Service - Bible Study**

**Elementary Principles of Christ
Principle #6 – Eternal Judgment**

**Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2020
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The Six Elementary Principles of Christ: This is the core foundation upon which spiritual maturity is built. It is impossible to go higher in our walk with God without the basic foundations listed in Hebrews 6:1 having been established in our lives

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| 1. Repentance from dead works | 2. Faith toward God |
| 3. The doctrine of baptisms | 4. Laying on of hands |
| 5. Resurrection of the dead | 6. Eternal judgment |

Principle #6: Eternal Judgement: The Christian faith does not terminate with time; it goes until eternity. One of the critical elements of eternity is judgment. *Hebrews 9:27* “*And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment*” (NLT). God wants Christians to understand the truth of the judgments, not just for information but also to comfort and motivate them to godly living. He also wants unbelievers to know so as to motivate them to trust in Christ as their personal Savior because He bore the judgment for their sin in their place.

TWO CATEGORIES OF GOD’S JUDGMENT

1. Judgment of God in Time: The bible tells us that God judges people’s actions even in time. He brings punishment and blessing to generations based on the previous generation’s response to God. While God’s judgment can be difficult for us to understand, we know it exists, and He is just and righteous in all His ways. Hence, we should trust Him. Romans 12:19

Exodus 20:4-6 - “*You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.*”

Jeremiah 32:18 - *You show love to thousands but bring the punishment for the parents’ sins into the laps of their children after them. Great and mighty God, whose name is the Lord Almighty, 19 great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds. Your eyes are open to the ways of all mankind; you reward each person according to their conduct and as their deeds deserve.*

2. Eternal Judgement: Eternal judgment is the judgment of God in eternity. In eternal judgment, God decides each person's reward or punishment for all eternity.

Ezekiel 18:1-4 - *The word of the Lord came to me: 2 “What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: “The parents eat sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? 3 “As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. 4 For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die.*”

FIVE PRINCIPLES OF GOD’S JUDGMENT (ROMANS 2:2-16)

1. God’s judgment is based on truth. Romans 2:2
2. God’s judgment is according to what each has done. Romans 2:6 1 Peter 1:17, Rev.20:12
3. God’s judgment is with no respect of persons. Romans 2:11-12
4. God’s judgment is according to the measure of light each person has. Romans 2:12, Matthew 11:20-24
5. God will judge our secret motives. Romans 2:16

FIVE SERIES OF ETERNAL JUDGMENTS

When people think of eternal judgment, they think of one final judgment. However, the Bible teaches that there are a series of judgments that differ with respect to time, purpose, subjects, and circumstances. Understanding these various judgments will give insight into God’s program. We are going to look at five different series of judgments.

I. The Judgement Seat of Christ (The Bema)

2 Corinthian 5:10 - *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad*

- Subjects: True Believers
- When: After the Church is caught up.
- Where: At the "Judgment Seat of Christ" (in the Air).
- Basis of Judgment: Assessment of service and works
- Result: Reward or Loss.

1 Peter 1:17 – “And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear”

Romans 14:10-12 – “But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. 11 For it is written: “As I live, says the Lord, Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God.” 12 So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.”

- The bema is not a judgment of condemnation. **John 3:18**- “Whoever believes in him is not condemned……”
- The bema is individual judgment not collective and is based more on faithfulness not just success

1 Corinthians 3:11-15 - For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, 13 their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person’s work. 14 If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. 15 If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames. (NIV)

How to ensure your work passes the test of fire

1. Our work must be done with the right motive – the only right motive is for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31
2. Our work must be done in obedience to the Word of God. Matthew 7:7
3. Our work must be done by God’s power. Romans 15:18-19

II. The Judgment of Israel (Jeremiah 30:3–7, Ezekiel 20:33–38)

Jeremiah 30:7 – “Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.”

- Subjects: The JEWS.
- When: During the Great Tribulation.
- Where: Jerusalem and Vicinity.
- Basis of Judgment: Rejection of the Godhead.
- Result: Their Conversion and Reception of Christ as Their Messiah. Romans 11:26

III. The Judgment of Gentiles Nations - Revelation 16:12-16, Matthew 25:31-46

God judges a nation's sin against Himself, and He also judges a nation's sin against His own people Israel.

- Subjects: The Nations (Gentiles).
- When: At The "Revelation of Christ."
- Where: The "Throne of His Glory." On the Earth "Valley of Jehoshaphat."
- Basis of Judgment-Their Treatment of Christ's Brethren. The Jews.
- Result-Some Nations "SAVED," Others "DESTROYED."

IV. The Final Judgment of Satan (Revelation 20:1–10).

Revelation 20:10 – “The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where [b] the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

- Subjects: Satan (The Devil)
- When: At the beginning and at the end of the millennial reign
- Where: The bottomless pit and the lake of fire
- Basis of Judgment: for deceiving the whole world.
- Result: To be tormented day and night forever and ever.

V. The Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11–15).

This final judgment of unbelievers for their sins occurs at the end of the Millennium before the creation of the new heaven and earth. At this judgment, unbelievers from all the ages are judged for their sins and consigned to the lake of fire.

- Subjects: The Wicked Dead.
- When: During the Renovation of the Earth by Fire.
- Where: Before "The Great White Throne."
- Basis of Judgment: Their "Works." (specifically, what they did with Jesus)
- Result: Cast Into the "Lake of Fire."