

Judgment in Matthew

Arthur Barry

Matthew records several of Jesus' warnings about judgment and he uses the phrase "day of judgment" often. In a lot of these verses, it sounds like entire communities are going to be judged as a unit. In these days of political strife and turmoil some people like to think that God will judge the U.S.A. as a unit and that our government will come under scrutiny. Is this true?

But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the Day of Judgment than for you.
Matthew 11:22

Jesus compares the pagan gentiles of Sodom and Gomorrah with the Jews of Chorazin, Capernaum and Bethsaida and says that the pagan gentiles will fare more favorably at the judgment. This is because the Son of God personally visited the Jews and performed miracles among them, and they still rejected Him. This division between Jews and Gentiles is quite stark in the New Testament and it often sounds like Jews rejected Jesus and Gentiles accepted Him. When the Holy Spirit came upon Cornelius and his household the conclusion was that God had poured the spirit out upon the Gentiles (Acts 10:45; 11:1). Yet all Gentiles were not saved at that point, nor will they ever be. The clarification is seen in Acts 11:18 where the Apostles declare their conclusion... "So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life."

It is a fact that communities take on a certain character, and some are worse than others, but we must remember that God still judges individuals based on whether they repent or not. Jesus makes that clear when He responds to the Pharisees charge that His miraculous power came from Satan.

But I tell you that men will have to give account on the Day of Judgment for every careless word they have spoken.
Matthew 12:36

Jesus uses the men of Nineveh as an example of those who repented, and then He cites the Queen of the South as an individual who had the right attitude.

The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now one greater than Jonah is here. The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom, and now one greater than Solomon is here. Matthew 12:41,42

Paul explains the remnant concept in Romans (9:27; 11:5) which basically means that not all Jews are lost because of what Jews did to Jesus. Neither are all Gentiles saved because of those who repented. Jews who repent will be saved and so will Gentiles who repent. God will go on judging nations (raising them up and taking them down) until the Day of Judgment but then it is every man for himself. God does pay particular attention to one group, however.

For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

1Peter 4:17



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

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October 17, 2021

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: The Year of Release

Arthur is preaching today.

Scripture Reading: John 8:31-38

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Paul will be continuing his lessons on the Psalms and stopping to sing a song from our songbook when appropriate.
- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** October 20th, at the building (or join us on Zoom), 6:30pm- Arthur will be continuing his lessons on the book of Matthew.
- ❖ **Next Potluck and Bring-a-Friend Sunday (3rd Sunday):** November 21st.
- ❖ **Ladies' Class on Tuesday, October 19th here at the building.** We will meet at 10am. We will study the words of the Apostle Peter, using the study book Living Stones by Casandra Martin. Chapter 2, Day 2. There are still a couple books available for \$18 each.
- ❖ **Next 5th Sunday Singing-** October 31st. Where: Horseheads, NY



- We have 50 MAGI boxes! Feel free to donate anything on the list, but we can concentrate on **toothpaste, toothbrushes (with plastic holder), soap (with plastic box) and combs or brushes** right now. We will be packing our boxes for the 5-7-year-old age group. If you find things on the list at a good price in stores near you, please let us know. Some people have made **money donations** as well. We have dress patterns too!
- Today marks **7 years** that we began meeting as the **Valley Cities church of Christ in Sayre, PA**. Soon afterwards the Endless Mountains church of Christ began meeting in Tunkhannock, PA as part of the same work. We will celebrate at our potluck!

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PRAYERS

- **Pray for the people of Afghanistan, especially for Christians and also for those who helped Americans who were trying to defeat the Taliban. Pray for the situation in Haiti and for the confusion at our southern border.**
- Pray for **Jackie**. She is dealing with edema of the legs and feet. She also has congestive heart failure. Pray for Darlene as she cares for her.
- Pray for **Linnett Short** (lung cancer), **Zachary Cowles** (deployment with the Army), **Pat Guthrie** (lung cancer), **Steve Noble** (needs lung transplant), **Arthur's brother Chris** (Alzheimer's).
- **Pray for Robin Barry** who has started his new job in Lake Charles, LA and is missing his family back in AK. Pray that the house deal goes through.
- **Steve and Amy's neighbor's sister, JoAnne**, has cancer and has been placed on Hospice care.
- **Pray for our MAGI box project.**
- **Amy's friend Marlene Hicks** who has ulcers and fatigue and is waiting for test results.
- **Sue Agati's 86-year-old brother Philip Bonczek** broke his leg and then contracted covid from his roommate at the convalescent home he was sent to.
- **Paulette** has been exposed to covid at work and has to be quarantined for two more days.
- **Arthur** will be having a biopsy at Upstate Medical in Syracuse on the 28th. Please pray that it is negative for cancer.
- Pray that **Jennifer** will not have to work Sundays for too much longer at the hospital because of being short staffed.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.