L GROUNDWORK

I Believe the Son will Judge

The concept of judgment often makes us uncomfortable; no one likes to be or feel judged by others. Yet, the Apostles' Creed expresses that from his place at God's right hand, Christ " will come to judge the living and the dead." Dig into the scriptures with us and discover what we believe will happen when Christ comes again and why believers don't need to fear Judgment Day, but instead can find comfort in Christ's judgment. Then let's discuss what it means for how we live for God today and for the kind of people God calls us to be.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Does the thought of Judgement Day bring you worry or comfort? Why?
- If you knew for certain that the world would end in a week, what would you make sure to do? Why? What things would you consider no longer important? Why?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: *I Believe the Son will Judge*

READ Mark 13:26-27, Acts 1:11, 2 Peter 3:3-13, 2 Corinthians 5:10

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Where have you seen evidence of God's refining fire in your life?
- As they close segment 1, hosts Scott Hoezee and Dave Bast discuss the incredible length of God's patience and the reason for it. What does this teach you about God? Does it affect how you feel about Judgement Day? Is it comforting? Why or why not?
- In segment 2, Dave and Scott discuss the reasons we do not need to be afraid of Judgement Day and why we can find comfort in it (Jesus has already transferred his righteousness to you, Jesus Christ himself is the judge, good works will come naturally to those who are living out their identity in Christ, and Jesus will set wrongs right and establish justice). Which of the reasons stood out to you? Was it new to you or was it a valuable reminder? Why was it meaningful to you today?
- Why is remembering the connection between judgment and justice so important?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

Titus 2:11-14, Revelation 20:11-15, John 5:22, Matthew 25:31-46, Romans 13:11-14

CONCLUSION

Dave and Scott affirm that salvation is by grace alone and that good works flow from those who are "just living out their identity in Christ". In segment 3 they discuss many of the ways we can "be about God's business" while we wait for Christ to return. Spend some time reflecting on their conversation and consider: Is there an area of your life in which you'd like to better live into your identity in Christ? What is the Holy Spirit laying on your heart today?

Close your reflection in prayer. Give thanks and praise God for the salvation already granted to you in Jesus Christ and his righteousness in you. Ask God for guidance, opportunity, peace, and strength to better live into your identity in Christ. Confidently pray, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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