

The King's Return
"The King's Judgement"
Matthew 25:31-46
Pastor John Miller

Introduction: We come today to the conclusion of our series "The King's Return." Our text has been The Olivet Discourse found in Matthew chapters 24-25.

- Jesus' teaching was a response to three questions asked by His disciples (24:3).
- Today, in closing, Jesus leaves His parabolic teaching and returns to prophetic predictions.

*** When the King returns, He is coming to judge the whole earth.**

- It is known as "the judgement of the nations" (25:31-46).
- Pictured here as "sheep and goats."
- It's the gospel of the King
- Mark- "Behold the Servant," Luke- "Behold the Man" and John- "Behold Your God."
- Matthew says "Behold Your King"
 - 1) Jesus is the revealed King
 - 2) Jesus is the rejected King
 - 3) Jesus is the returning King

*** Why is the King returning?**

- He is coming to judge.
 - It's a vast subject in the Bible
 - Illustration- John the Baptist- "the Holy Spirit" and "fire."
 - It's not popular today to talk about God's judgement, but the Bible teaches that God is holy and righteous, and He will judge sin.
 - Illustration- Jude 14-15- "The Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgement upon all."
 - Sin will not go unpunished!

*** Let's look together at this prophecy of Jesus about His coming judgement.**

I. The Setting of this Judgement (v.v. 31-33)

*** Four questions:**

- 1) Who will be the judge?
 - a. (v. 31) "When the Son of Man... (His incarnation and humiliation)"

- b. It's Jesus' favorite title for Himself. (Daniel 7:13)
 - c. It's Jesus! Jesus is coming to judge!
 - d. John 5:22- "For the Father judgeth no man, but has committed all judgement unto the Son."
 - e. Because of Christ's incarnation, He is perfectly suited to be mankind's judge.
 - f. He comes in love to die on the cross.
 - g. He is coming back to judge sin.
- 2) When will He judge?
- a. (v. 31) "When He comes in His glory and all the holy angels with Him."
 - b. The time of this judgement is at the Second Coming of Christ.
 - c. Three reasons for Christ's return:
 - i. Retribution
 - 1. Psalm 89:9- "He will judge the world with justice and the nations with equity."
 - ii. Reign
 - 1. On David's throne
 - iii. Restore- Creation to reverse the curse.
- 3) Where will He judge?
- a. (v. 31) "...then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory."
 - b. Its on the earth—David's throne
 - c. Its not the Great White Throne (Revelation 20:11-15)
 - d. It's at the end of the 1000 year reign.
 - e. At this time, the Antichrist and False Prophet will be cast (Revelation 19), and Satan will be bound for 1000 years (Revelation 20).
- 4) Who will be judged? (v.v. 32-33)
- a. (v. 32) "all nations" or "Gentiles"
 - b. The metaphor- "a shepherd"
 - c. "Sheep"- saved Gentiles (saved in Tribulation)
 - d. "Goats"- unsaved Gentiles

II. The Process of the Judgement (v.v. 34-46)

- 1) The inheritance of the sheep (v.v. 34-40)
 - a. A literal earthly kingdom- 1000 years (v. 34)
 - b. Are we saved by works? No! (Ephesians 2:8-9)
 - c. We are saved for "good works" (Ephesians 2:10)
- 2) The judgement of the goats (v.v. 41-46)

CONCLUSION

*** (v. 46) two eternal destinies**

- 1) Eternal punishment**
- 2) Eternal life**

*** Jesus said- “two roads” and “two gaites”**

- **Heaven or Hell- you decide!**
- **Illustration- Jesus in the Synagogue of Nazareth**
- **Isaiah 61:1-2- “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn.”**
- **John 3:16- The cross!**
- **God’s love**
- **Sin will be judged!**

*** Wrap-up of the Olivet Discourse:**

- 1) God is not finished with Israel**
- 2) There will be a kingdom coming**
- 3) Jesus will come as King to judge and reign**
- 4) Be ready! We don’t know when.**
- 5) Two eternal destinies**