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Is Judgment Day Coming THIS Week?

Hebrews 9:27: (NASB) *And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment...*



Remember this past May 21st - according to Harold Camping the day that the rapture was supposed to happen? Since that "no show" all the air has gone out of Harold Camping's "prophecies" and attention is no longer focused in that direction. The fact is that the "other half" of his "prophecy" was that the earth would burn up on this coming Friday, October 21st. While we won't focus on Mr. Camping this morning, we will focus our time on God's Day of Judgment upon this earth. Exactly what is the Day of Judgment, how does it work, what does it accomplish and when it might come to pass?

What is the purpose of the Day of Judgment?

Camping on October 21 Judgment, CBS Early Show

- *Apparently there is a new Judgment Day. Harold Camping apologized and says that May 21st was a spiritual and invisible judgment. It will actually take five months for the fireball to come and consume earth.*

Purpose: To follow-up the sentence of death upon all men:

Hebrews 9:27-28: (NASB) Judgment therefore happens *after* death.

Purpose: To give an accounting for idle words: **Matthew 12:35-37:** Jesus compares those that are "good" and those that are "evil." There is accountability for your words and your treasure.

Purpose: To "punish" (prune - more on this later) the unjust and ungodly men: Sin has consequence, but could the Day of Judgment have any positive end to it? **2 Peter 3:7**

Purpose: To judge the angels who sinned: **2 Peter 2:4:** **Jude 1:6:** Angels are going to be judged as well as humankind.

What kind of judgment is executed on that Day of Judgment?

Now, let's define the details of the above texts: First of all, what does "judgment" really mean?

Judgment: Strongs #2920 krisis (kree'-sis); decision (subjectively or objectively, for or against); by extension, a tribunal; by implication, justice (especially, divine law): 1) a separating, sundering, separation 1a) a trial, contest

So, is this "judgment" a *process* of discovery just like in a trial and not a time of slamming the hammer of punishment down?

Matthew 12:16-18: Jesus was quoting **Isaiah 42:1-4** (below), that he did this in fulfillment of the Isaiah prophecy. Does the following sound like a hammer or a process?

Isaiah 42:1-4: This is God speaking about Jesus. Jesus will bring forth justice to the nations in a compassionate way. Gentleness and justice are working together! This is the description of how justice to the Gentiles will operate. According to this, it looks like judgment is a process of uncovering and of accountability. **John 5:30:** Judgment is not too harsh and not too gentle. It is just because it is according to the will of the Father. **John 7:24**

Camping explains lack of rapture on May 21st, 2011, APNews

- *We know from the Bible that on May 21st, 2011, God brought Judgment Day to bear on the whole world. The whole world is under Judgment Day and it will continue right up until October 21, 2011, and at that time the whole world will be destroyed.*

But we already found out that judgment happens after death and resurrection. Having Judgment Day five months long is not scriptural either.

Matthew 12:41: Jesus says that at the Judgment, the men of Nineveh will be resurrected and will be looking at Jesus' audience and will condemn *them*. This shows a tribunal, a process. It is very important to understand the difference between the "judgment" (a process of discovery) and the use of "judgment/condemning" regarding a final sentencing. First there is a judgment (process of discovery, gathering information about the life you led, as in a courtroom), then there is a condemning, a final sentencing. The latter is a different word:

Condemn: Strongs #2632 katakrino (kat-ak-ree'-no); to judge against, i.e. sentence:



A final sentencing: Matthew 20:18: Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall **condemn <2632>** him to death,

Hebrews 11:7: By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he **condemned <2632>** the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

How long is this Day of Judgment?

Day: Strongs #2250 hemera (hay-mer'-ah); day, i.e. (literally) the time space between dawn and dark, or the whole 24 hours (but several days were usually reckoned by the Jews as inclusive of the parts of both extremes); figuratively, a period (always defined more or less clearly by the context):

How long is a day? A day isn't necessarily a 24-hour time period. "...Back in my grandfather's day..." "...In the day of the Pharaohs..." Matthew 23:30 Matthew 28:20

The Apostle Peter himself tells us that Judgment Day is NOT 24 hours: A day as 1,000 years! Now this next text makes much more sense! *All to come to repentance* - again this sounds like a process, a time to prove ourselves worthy.

Genesis 2:16-17: Did Adam and Eve die that day? Genesis 5:5: (NASB) *So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years, and he died.* Nope - Adam lived 930 years! Adam was sentenced to death after eating the fruit and died within a 1,000 year time frame. He died "in that day" in the Lord's timing.

Is the Day of Judgment the same thing as Armageddon, the Great Time of Trouble?

Doomsday "Preppers" Intro, *National Geographic*

- *Four families prepare for a time when they believe water, food and fuel will be scarce. They fear a world where money is worthless and there is no rule of law. Each expects an impending disaster that will destroy the world as we know it and have gone to extreme lengths so that when the end of days arrive, they will be prepared to survive.*

Are they preparing for the Day of Judgment or for Armageddon?

Matthew 24:21: (KJV) *For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.*

Zephaniah 1:14-18: As we have seen, the Day of Judgment's events do not match the events above. The day of the Lord's wrath happens to the nations being judged. This is different from the Day of Judgment of mankind and even the angels. The day of God's wrath *precedes* the Day of Judgment.

John 5:28-29: (NASB) ²⁸*Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice,* ²⁹*and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of **judgment <2920>**.*

Matthew 16:27: Jesus' angels here are his true followers, so they are part of the Day of Judgment process.

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The Day of Judgment can be defined by the difference in the relationship of Jesus to his true followers now vs. his relationship with the world later.

...they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life: Their judgment is already complete.

1 Timothy 5:24: *Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to **judgment <2920>**; and some men they follow after.*

No one escapes accountability, but Christians "take on the merit of Jesus" now, and are therefore under judgment now.



John 5:24: (NASB) *Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word, and believes Him who sent me, has eternal life, and does not come into **judgment <2920>**, but has passed out of death into life.*

But didn't we see earlier that judgment happened after death? Here are believers in Christ who pass from death to life without that future judgment. Those believers are "on trial" now. The trial for the "everybody else" comes later.

As a result of this, these have a unique relationship with Jesus:

1 John 2:1-2: (ASV) *¹My little children, these things write I unto you that ye may not sin. And if any man sin, we have an **Advocate <3875>** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: ²and he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.*

Advocate: Strongs #3875 parakletos (par-ak'-lay-tos); an intercessor, consoler:

1) summoned, called to one's side, especially called to one's aid, one who pleads another's cause with one, an intercessor

2 Corinthians 5:17-18: (NASB) *¹⁷Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. ¹⁸Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.*

God gave us (the followers of Jesus) the ministry of reconciling others back to God, through the Day of Judgment.

1 John 4:17: (KJV) *Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.*

Having boldness in the day of judgment - These are with Jesus doing the work of putting the world back in order. Their judgment is before that of the world's.

Acts 17:29-31: (NASB) The Apostle Paul states that God has declared all people should repent. God's judgment comes through Jesus in righteousness. It is a process with a trial, not the "final stamp."



Doomsday Preppers - Coronal Mass Ejections, National Geographic

- *You could say that I am obsessed with studying and preparing for the end of the world. In 2012, the earth will be bombarded by a "coronal mass ejection." This bombardment will knock the world's electrical grid down - in 30 days our neighborhood will be pure pandemonium. Coronal mass ejections are powerful eruptions on the sun that break free of the solar atmosphere. If these masses of plasma reach the earth, it could destroy our electrical grid which touches every facet of modern life.*

Remember, Armageddon comes *before* the Day of Judgment.

God through Jesus judges the world in righteousness - and what else? Love! 2 Peter 3:9: *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. The attitude of the Day of Judgment is brought out - it is just but merciful. Justice and mercy work together with accountability.*

1 Timothy 2:3-6: (NRSV) *³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the **knowledge <1922>** of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one **mediator <3316>** between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all --this was attested at the right time.*

Knowledge: Strongs #1922 recognition, i.e. (by implication) full discernment, acknowledgement: Lexicon: 1) precise and correct knowledge 1a) used in the New Testament of the knowledge of things ethical and divine

Mediator: Strongs #3316 1) one who intervenes between two, either in order to make or restore peace and friendship, or form a compact, or for ratifying a covenant 2) a medium of communication, arbitrator

Part of what the Day of Judgment involves is laying out truth. Truth will be completely understood during this time of "crisis," judgment. An advocate sits along side of you, but a mediator brings the two sides at odds together.

The true followers have their Day of Judgment now with Jesus Christ at their side, as their *advocate*. The world has their Day of Judgment in the resurrection and they need a *mediator* - someone to sit between them and God. So there really is an "us" vs. "them" with a different relationship with Jesus.



Hebrews 12:24: And to Jesus the **mediator <3316>** of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

What is the New Covenant? Let's look at some of the Old Testament prophecies: Jeremiah 31:29-34: These days it is easy to make excuses for why we do what we do - we were born this way, our family situation was poor, etc. In the future, there will be a full discernment of truth. The sin that besets mankind now will no longer be there. They will be accountable for their own actions. There will be no more excuses.

The New Covenant is in place at this time, according to the Hebrews scripture above. The knowledge of God will be widespread throughout the world. It is a good time to have fair judgment because all the excuses are taken away. Individuals can make right for what they did in the past.

The Day of Judgment will be easier for some, harder for others: 2 Peter 2:9: (KJV) *The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be **punished <2849>**:*

Punished: Strong's #2849 1) to lop or prune, as trees and wings, 2) to curb, check, restrain, 3) to chastise, correct, punishment, 4) to cause to be punished

Pruning allows something valuable to be produced. The Day of Judgment involves a pruning work for the whole world.


What will be the results of the Day of Judgment?

The fallen angels know there is an appointed time for their own judgment:

Matthew 8:29: *And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment (meaning "to test") us before the time?*

before the time: Before judgment time. Clearly they were still subject under the power of Jesus.

Jude 1:6: (KJV) *And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.*

 **On The Day of Judgment, OperationReapSouls, youtube.com**

- *Ten out of ten people die on this earth. On the Day of Judgment, Jesus will say to most people, including the majority who say that they are Christians, "Go away, I never knew you." What will he say to you?*

We agree that everyone is accountable to God. We need to focus on righteousness in order to get our lives right before God.

Despite all of the advantage given to each, every individual will not succeed: Acts 3:22-23 Isaiah 65:17-20: There is accountability. God forces no one.

Yet, for those who comply with the righteousness and rule of God, the rest of this verse applies: Isaiah 65:21-25 Daniel 2:44: God takes back the earth and sets up His kingdom. You would need a thorough judgment to weed out anyone in opposition to the will of God so that everyone can live in harmony under God and Christ.

Habakkuk 2:14: (KJV) *For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

Psalms 22:27: *All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.*

**So, is Judgment Day coming this week?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!**