Are You Concerned About the Future?

It was Jesus who described the final judgment and discussed the right hand and left hand of the Judge of all mankind. It is truly the most sobering thought that you and I will be there and hear the judgment given as to where we shall be forever and ever.

Every person who has ever lived will be there, for the graves will have been opened. The Judge said, "The hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth" (**John 5:28-29**). Paul described it, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body" (**2 Cor. 5:10**).

The universe, the heavens and the earth will have ceased. Their time of existence will terminate on that day of judgment (**2 Pet. 3:7**). This is the day "…in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" (**2 Pet. 3:10**).

The judgment will take place, and like a shepherd in ancient days separated the sheep from the goats in his flock, so the Shepherd will separate the righteous from the ungodly. You and I will be placed with the righteous "sheep" on His right hand or the unrighteous "goats" on His left hand. The final judgment will happen in this way.

"Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world'" (**Matt. 25:34**). His final message to those on His left hand will be, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (**Matt. 25:41**). You and I will hear one or the other of two sentences—"Come, you blessed of My Father," or "Depart from Me, you cursed."

The reality of this time should impact every decision we make and the basis on which we make them. Nothing in this material world will matter, for none of it will exist when time ends. Most people you know think about their future, and they only focus on and value these temporal things. Many have elevated their judgment about how to live each day, but the only truth about the future is the truth from God.

You and I have a view of the future, but we must realize the truth about the future is found in the God of truth. One truth cannot be changed. You and I will without any doubt experience it. "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal" (**Matt. 25:46**). Think soberly about the closing words of Peter's second epistle, "Since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness?" (**2 Peter 3:12**).

Think soberly about these words!

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