



I JOHN: WHEN TRUTH IS LIVED
“THAT GREAT DAY”
I JOHN 4: 16-17

THIS SECTION OF CHAPTER 4 (VV. 7-21), IS ACTUALLY THE THIRD TIME JOHN DISCUSSES LOVE IN HIS LETTER. THE FIRST TIME WAS IN 2: 7-11 WHERE HE PRESENTED LOVE AS A PROOF OF TRUE FELLOWSHIP. THEN THE SECOND TIME WAS IN 3: 10-17 WHERE JOHN DISCUSSED LOVE AS EVIDENCE OF OUR SONSHIP WITH GOD. NOW HERE IN THIS PASSAGE, JOHN SPEAKS OF US AS CHRISTIANS HAVING CONFIDENCE IN THE DAY OF JUDGMENT. AS JOHN HAS SPOKEN OF LOVE IN THIS CHAPTER HE HAS BEEN TEACHING US ABOUT “PERFECT LOVE”, OR “GOD-LIKE LOVE” OR “MATURE LOVE”. HE SPOKE OF IT IN REFERENCE TO THE CHARACTER OF GOD IN VV. 7-8; IN REFERENCE TO THE COMING OF CHRIST IN VV. 9-11; AND IN REFERENCE TO THE CHRISTIAN’S CLAIM OF FAITH IN VV. 12-16). NOW IN OUR VERSES FOR THIS MORNING, WE SEE PERFECT LOVE AND OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TELL US ABOUT “THE DAY OF JUDGMENT?”

I. CHRIST HIMSELF WILL BE THE JUDGE

IN JOHN 5:27 WE READ THAT GOD “HATH GIVEN HIM AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE JUDGMENT ALSO, BECAUSE HE IS THE SON OF GOD.” WE READ THE SAME THING IN MATTHEW 25:31; IT IS ALSO MENTIONED IN ACTS 10:42 AND 17:31.

THE JUDGE WHO WILL JUDGE ALL MANKIND AT THE END OF TIME IS NONE OTHER THAN JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD.

II. WHO WILL BE JUDGED?

FIRST AND FOREMOST, THE FALLEN ANGELS, THE ANGELS WHO LEFT WITH LUCIFER WHEN HE WAS BANISHED FROM HEAVEN, ARE TO BE JUDGED. THIS IS FOUND IN JUDE AND IN I CORINTHIANS 6. BUT IT IS NOT ONLY A JUDGMENT OF ANGELS—IT IS A JUDGMENT TO WHICH EVERY INDIVIDUAL HUMAN BEING WHO HAS EVER LIVED OR EVER WILL LIVE WILL BE SUBJECTED. THERE WILL BE A JUDGMENT FOR BELIEVERS, AND A JUDGMENT FOR UNBELIEVERS.

III. WHAT IS THE STANDARD OF JUDGMENT?

THE STANDARD WILL BE THE REVEALED WILL OF GOD. THAT IS FOUND IN THE WORD OF GOD. WE ARE TOLD IN THE SCRIPTURES THAT THE GENTILES WILL BE JUDGED ACCORDING TO THE LIGHT THEY HAVE---THEIR CONSCIENCE, SAYS PAUL, IN ROMANS 2. THE JEWS WILL BE JUDGED BY THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES, BY THE LAW GIVEN TO MOSES.

CHRISTIANS WILL BE JUDGED ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL THEY CLAIM TO BELIEVE. THE SCRIPTURES TEACH THAT THERE WILL BE DEGREES OF JUDGMENT AS WELL AS DEGREES OF REWARD.

THE SCRIPTURES SPEAK OF A JUDGMENT AT DEATH AND ANOTHER ONE ON THE LAST DAY. AT DEATH EACH PERSON RECEIVES GOD’S VERDICT ON HIS LIFE(LUKE 16: 22-23). THE CHRISTIAN DOES NOT FEAR THIS MOMENT BECAUSE HE HAS ALREADY BEEN ACQUITTED IN CHRIST JESUS, WHO BY HIS SUBSTITUTIONARY DEATH PAID FOR OUR SINS WHICH WAS REQUIRED BY GOD’S LAW. AT DEATH, THE CHRISTIAN WILL BE WITH HIS SAVIOR IN PARADISE(LUKE 23:43).

THE UNBELIEVER RIGHTFULLY FEARS DEATH BECAUSE ON THAT DAY HE WILL BE CONFRONTED WITH THE FACT AS HE HAS REJECTED GOD IN THIS LIFE, SO GOD REJECTS

**SOUTH POINT
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Finding God's Direction for Life



Presented by Dr. Jimmy Hilton

HIM IN HIS DEATH FOREVER. "THE GREAT DAY OF JUDGMENT" WILL BE SOMETHING TO FEAR FOR THE UNBELIEVER, BUT FOR THE CHRISTIAN IT WILL BE FACED WITH CONFIDENCE BECAUSE OF THE LOVE OF GOD WHICH HAS BEEN PERFECTED IN THE CHRISTIAN AND BECAUSE IT WILL USHER HIM INTO HEAVEN TO BE WITH THE LORD FOREVER.

ARE WE READY FOR "THAT GREAT DAY?" IT'S COMING SOON.