

JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!
Pastor Rick Bartosik
Sunday, January 15, 2023
“The Sheep and Goats Judgment”
Matthew 25:31-46

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 2

Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against his anointed, saying, “Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.”

The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.

He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

“I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.”

I will proclaim the LORD’s decree: He said to me, “You are my son; today I have become your father. Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”

Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling.

Kiss his son, or he will be angry, and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

INTRODUCTION: Ancient Hawaiians had a legend that LONO “the god of peace” had once come in human form to visit them. When he departed for the mysterious land of “Kahiki” he promised to return. Jesus the true “Prince of Peace” also promised to return. But that promise is not a legend! It is really true! No matter what view of Bible prophecy we take, we know that Jesus is coming again. He came once to be our Savior; he will come again in power and glory to raise the dead and rule as Judge of all the earth! Before him every knee will bow.

EXPOSITION: “The Sheep and Goats Judgment” Matt. 25:31-46

1. The Judge Seated on His Throne (31)
2. The People Gathered Before Him (32-33)
3. The Evidence Introduced (34-45)
4. The Verdict Pronounced (46)

CONCLUSION: The final separation of the “sheep” and “goats” will be complete and irreversible. J.C. Ryle sums up this passage: “Let us ask ourselves on which side of Christ we are likely to be at that last day. Shall we be on the right hand or shall we be on the left hand? Happy is he who never rests until he can give a satisfactory answer to that question.”

Matt. 25:31-46

The Sheep and the Goats

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

⁴⁴ “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

⁴⁵ “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

⁴⁶ “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”