

GIVING ACCOUNT TO JESUS

June 7, 2015 Matthew 12:36-37 by Bob Branch
Exploring the Foundations of Our Faith: Part 9

MAIN IDEA: The Bible says Jesus will return, and we will stand before him and give account of our lives and face him as judge, and then receive from him his verdict.

But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned. **Matthew 12:36-37**

Everyone...

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.” **2 Corinthians 5:10**

Give account...

“So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.” **Rom. 14:12** (Heb. 4:13; Rom 2:16; 3:19; 1 Cor. 4:4-5; 1 Pet 4:5)

Day of Judgment...

“For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead.” **Acts 17:31** NLT (1 Thes. 5:2; 2 Pet 3:10; Mal. 4:5; Is 13:6, 9; Rev 11:18)

Give account for what?

- **What you did with Jesus**

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.” **John 3:36** (5:24; Heb 12:23; 1 Th. 1:10; 5:9)

- **Words spoken...**

“I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak...” **Matthew 12:36**

- **Deeds done**

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.” **2 Cor. 5:10** (fire: 1 Cor. 3:13f)

There will be Consequences: acquitted/condemned

- **Welcomed into eternal life/eternal condemnation**

“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.” **Matthew 25:46** (Dan. 12:1–2; Mat. 18:6-9; 2 Thess. 1:5-10; Jude 7, 13; Rev. 11:18)

- **Eternal reward...**

“Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.” **2 Timothy 4:8** (Mt. 25:21; 6:2, 6; Col. 3:23–24; Heb. 11:6; Luke 12:33-34)

How can God be love, and Judge?

“Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.” **1 Jn 4:18** NLT

God is Judge... in 6D

- **At the Day of the Lord** (2 Pet 2:9; 3:7; 1 Cor 1:8; 3:13)
- **In present tense** (Acts 5:1-11; 1 Cor. 11:29-30)
- **Sowing and Reaping** (Gal 6:7-8)
- **Handing us over to what we want most** (Rom. 1:24f)
- **When we die** (Hebrews 9:27)
- **Discipline as legitimate children of God** (Hebrews 12:5-11; 1 Cor. 11:31-32)

Our Response to This?

Relief, comfort, confidence (Christian)

Fear the Lord, live accountable in grace (1 Pet 1:13, 17; 4:7)

Turn to Jesus, own him as Savior, sins forgiven

Repent in present tense (turn from sin, to God; Acts 3:19)

Urgency for unsaved folks to hear Gospel; (2 Cor. 5:10–15)

Worship (Revelation 15:3–4)