



The Good News of the Judgment



Sabbath School Lesson 5 | Apr 22 – Apr 28 Sabbath School Lesson Notes Outline *"The Good News of the Judgment"*

A The good news of the judgment:

❖ The judgment and the gospel.

- David had sinned and asked God to blot out his transgression (Psalm 51:1). What does that mean?
- David knew that God forgives our sins as soon as we acknowledge our sin (Psalm 51:2-3). David's conclusion was: "That You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge" (Psalm 51:4). Judgment?
- How does God wash our sins away, judges with justice, and is found pure in the judgment?
- Thanks to the gospel. That's how our sins are forgiven, our salvation is assured, and we will be victorious in the judgment.
- The sacrifice of Jesus showed the whole Universe that God is fair in the way He deals with sin.

❖ The judgment and mercy.

- Justice demands the death of those who have broken God's Law (Romans 6:23; 1 John 3:4). God could've abolished or changed His Law.
- However, He didn't. The wicked will be judged and punished by their works (Revelation 20:13). Those who transgressed the Law will be condemned (Revelation 20:15).
- How can we find hope in the judgment? By God's mercy, Jesus gave His life for us. We just have to accept Him as our Savior (Ephesians 2:4-5; James 2:13).

B Scenes of the judgment:

❖ Daniel 7: The Judge, the Son, and the faithful people.

- Daniel saw a vision about God's judgment and its consequences:
 - (1) God begins the judgment seated on a throne of fire (v. 9)
 - (2) Millions are attending the judgment, and the books are opened (v. 10)
 - (3) Jesus attends the judgment as our representative (v. 13)
 - (4) At the end, Jesus receives "dominion and glory and kingdom" (v. 14)
 - (5) The judge orders the destruction of the wicked (v. 26)
 - (6) Jesus gives His kingdom "the people, the saints" (v. 27)

❖ Revelation 4: The judgment begins with praise.

- John also saw the magnificent scene of the Judgment.
 - (1) God is seated on His throne (v. 1-3)
 - (2) 24 elders are gathered around the throne as the jury (v. 4)
 - (3) Lightnings, thunders, and voices are heard: the judgment begins (v. 5)
 - (4) The witnesses appear: the cherubs represent the angels that have been with us (v. 6-8)

(5) God is praised before proceeding (v. 9-11)

- Praise is the core of this judgment scene. The heavenly beings praise God because He is worthy of judging and ending with sin (Revelation 4:11).

❖ **Revelation 5: The Lamb is worthy of judging.**

- The Father has a scroll in his hand. Its contents will be examined during the judgment. However, no one is worthy of opening its seals and judging fairly (Revelation 5:1-4).
- Only Jesus is worthy, the Lamb of God that was slain for us. He is our representative in the judgment. His perfect and upright life covers us (Revelation 5:5-7).
- Heavens burst into praises to Jesus before this amazing act of love (Revelation 5:8-14 NIV).
- The purpose of the judgment is not to find out how bad we are but to reveal how good God is.

To sum up, Revelation 4 and 5 tell the beginning of the investigative judgment in 1844.

When the book is opened, humans are judged according to the contents of the book.

Chapters 6 to 11 tell the development of the judgment.

The Judge
The Father

The jury
The 24 elders

The attendees
The angels

The attorney
Jesus

The witnesses
The 4 beings