



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

11-26-23: Last Sunday of the Church Year Theme: The King Bestows His Kingdom

1) on believers, 2) whose faith was evident from their deeds

Matthew 25:31-46

³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²All 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. ³³He 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. ³⁵For 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, ³⁶I 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?’ ³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?’ ³⁹When 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. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I 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.”

1. What are your gut reactions to the fact that Judgment Day could happen at any second?

2. Complete the sentence using each of the options. Explain why each is true. Judgement Day is to be (**feared/ longed for**) by the (**unbeliever/ believer**), (**New Man/ Old Adam**).
3. Sometimes God addressed a prophet, like Ezekiel, saying, “son of man, I say to you...” Jesus regularly used the title “Son of Man” to refer to himself. Consulting Daniel 7:13,14, why would it have ticked off the teachers of the law every time Jesus called himself that?
4. A shepherd separating sheep from goats was common practice because they don't mesh well at night in the sheepfold. The shepherd would've been able to tell them apart by their appearance. What are the outward marks of spiritual “sheep” and “goats” that Jesus points to?
5. Is Jesus rendering judgement based on works? How would you explain this to a Roman Catholic who might say, “See! This section shows that you have to do good works to get into heaven.”
6. The king will say, “Take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.” How does statement also show us that “receiving the inheritance” doesn't depend on our works?
7. Look at the list of things people either did or didn't do? What do you notice about the kinds of things Jesus mentions?
8. Evaluate: “The church is too focused on itself and not enough on helping in the community.”