

“Boldness In The Day Of Judgment”

1 John 4:17-19

Introduction:

- A. People react to “the day of judgment” differently.
 - 1. Indifferent.
 - 2. Doubtful.
 - a. Its reality.
 - b. Its results.
 - 3. Fearful.
 - 4. Hopeful.
- B. Christians should react to “the day of judgment” boldly.
 - 1. Opposite of doubt, fear and timidity.
 - 2. Not with self-confidence but Christ-confidence. (Eph. 3:12).
- C. Christians should view all aspects Judgment with bold assurance.

Discussion:

I. We Should Feel Assured Of Its REALITY. (Acts 17:30,31).

- A. As real as the resurrection of Christ.
- B. As real as death itself. (Heb. 9:27).
- C. As real as the word of God. (2 Pet. 3:5-9).

II. We Should Feel Assured Of Its RESULTS. (1 John 4:17).

- A. Not all who “look for” it should “look forward to” it.
 - 1. Sinners can “look for” the judgment. (Heb. 10:26,27).
 - 2. Christians should look forward to judgment. (2 Pet. 3:11-14).
- B. Not all who “look forward to” it should - false assurance.
 - 1. A false view of the nature of God.
 - a. Of His goodness.
 - b. Of His grace. (cf. Rom. 4:6-8, 1 John 1:7,9).
 - 2. A false view of the nature of assurance.
 - a. A clear conscience. (Acts 23:1)
 - b. A subjective feeling, rather than objective evidence.
 - 3. A false sense of security — Lukewarm members (Rev. 3:15-19)
- C. Not all who should “look forward to” it do - weak faith.
 - 1. Need stronger faith in the promises of God. (2 Pet. 3:9)
 - a. Of forgiveness. (Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:7,9).
 - b. Of our reward (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:6-8; Phil. 1:21).
 - 2. Need stronger faith in God's help. (Rom. 8:26-30; Heb. 4:16).
 - a. With our temptations (1 Cor. 10:12,13; 2 Thess. 3:3,4).
 - b. With our commitment to Him. (2 Tim. 1:12).
 - 3. Need better understanding of sin.
 - a. What sin is.
 - (1) Lawlessness — commission and omission. (1 John 3:4).
 - (2) Often depends of ability, opportunity, and knowledge. (Gal 6:10; Jas. 4:17)
 - b. What sin is not.
 - (1) Temptation is not sin. (James 1:14,15).
 - (2) Poor judgment is not necessarily sin. (1 Cor. 7:36).

Conclusion:

- A. Can approach day of judgment with boldness:
 - 1. If we obey him. (Heb. 5:8,9).
 - 2. If turn from sin to serving him.
- B. Can our hope be so uncertain and still be hope?