

There's a Great Day Coming

Daniel 7:9-14, Acts 1:11

1. What will your answer be?
 - a. Volunteer chaplain at Camp Atterbury (Nineveh, Indiana) during Army intake prior to an international conflict. Soldiers started with medical, then on to psychological review, next financial (POA, wills, etc.), finally met with the chaplain. We filled out a section on religious preference (Baptist, Muslim, etc.). These were young men and women who were going into battle and they were confronted with the reality that they might die on the battlefield.
 - b. Many claimed to be atheist, but I would then ask, "If in the case that you are severely injured on the battlefield and are fighting for your life, do you want an atheist or a Christian to pray for you?" Most changed their "religious preference" from atheist to Christian.
 - c. When we are confronted with the reality of death most people think about eternity.
 - d. God's justice demands that both sides of John 3:16 be taught, and realize that there is a great day coming.
2. Grandfather and grandson conversation about future. "What are you going to do with your life? > 'Graduate high school.' 'Then what?' 'Go to college.' "Then what?' 'Go to medical school.' 'Then what?' 'Do my residency.' 'Then what?' 'Get a job as a doctor and save lives.' 'Then what?' 'Get married and have a family.' 'Then what?' 'Grow old, retire, then die.' 'Then what?' 'Meet my God.' 'I was wondering when you were going to work God into your schedule of life.'"

Thesis: There is a Great Day coming in the future where all will be present before the divine Judge. Our book of life will be opened and we shall be judged according to what is written therein. God's Word will determine whether we shall go to heaven or hell.

- I. There's a Great Day Coming
 - A. Acts 17:31
 - B. Hebrews 9:27
- II. What's going to happen on that Great Day that is coming?
 - A. We will stand before the judge alone
 1. 1 Corinthians 5:10 - This is an appointment that all must keep. We cannot skip it or sleep forever in an unconscious state.
 2. John 5:28-29 - An hour is coming when all who in the graves will hear His voice and must resurrect and stand before the judgment seat of God.
 3. Romans 1 teaches that everyone knows there is a God (greater power), but the one who persists in wickedness will persuade themselves to indulge in sin and not believe in God until they are "turned over" to their depraved minds (Romans 1:25-29).
 4. Romans 14:10-12 - "...we shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ..."
 - B. The books will be opened -
 1. Romans 2:16 All our secrets will be laid bare, the spotlight of God's Word will expose out secrets, unless they are covered by the Blood of Jesus.
 2. Hebrews 4:13
 3. Revelation 20:12-13
 - C. We must give an account of what is on minds (sins of the heart)
 1. Matthew 5:28
 2. 1 John 3:15

3. The point is that during this life God wants the WHOLE of us, not just part, or part-time.
- D. Everyone will face judgment alone
1. Example of Jesus: In the wilderness angels were sent to comfort Him, at Mount of Transfiguration Moses and Elijah were sent to comfort Jesus, in the Garden of Gethsemane angels were sent to comfort Him, but on the cross He said, "Elohim, Elohim, why have You forsaken me?" At judgement no one can stand in our place, no one can answer for us, parents can't answer for us...it will be you who will answer for yourself!
 2. Romans 14:12
- III. Rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19ff)
- A. The living have Moses and the prophets. The dead have no one.
 - B. Once we die our fate is sealed. The judgment scene is not a place where we will plead our case. Our life on this earth, obedience or disobedience will determine our guilt or innocence. In judgment we will present ourselves to receive our judgment.

Conclusion:

1. Restate thesis.
2. Plan of salvation.

(Relied heavily on D. Barnes' outline on Eschatology)

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