

“DEATH – JUDGMENT”

(Heb. 9:27)

“*And inasmuch as it is appointed unto men once to die, and after this cometh judgment,*” Heb. 9:27. In this passage there are two things emphasized: (1) **Death**, (2) **Judgment**. We have a saying concerning life, “There are two things certain, death and taxes.” The word of God is saying there are two things that are certain, **death** and **judgment**. These two things are worthy of *consideration* – **careful consideration!**

As I survey time as presented in the bible, the rule with people is they lived and died! **Adam**, Gen. 5:5; **Noah**, Gen. 5:31; **Abraham**, Gen. 25:7-8; **Moses**, Deut. 34:7-8; **David**, I Ki. 2:10-11 and **John** the baptizer, Matt. 14:10, to name a few people from history. I could continue to name people mentioned in the Bible and the fact of their death; but this is established: **David** said, “*I am going the way of all the earth,*” I Ki. 2:2. It is a general rule that all people die! “*It is appointed unto men once to die,*” Heb. 9:27.

Before there are those who become disjointed about this conclusion, I am aware of the fact of some being “**translated:**” – **Enoch**, Gen. 5:21-24, Jude 14-16; **Elijah**, II Ki. 2:11-12. These two men were “**translated,**” taken up and did not see death; but, they were exceptions to the **general rule**. The general rule is, “*the dust returneth to the earth as it was,*” Ecc. 12:7.

If you do not think of death as being a **general rule** to life, just notice the **graveyards** up and down the highway as you drive along and then consider the multiple numbers of graveyards off from the road that you never see. These all are a testimony to the fact of our death! Most of the old folks you have known in the past are gone; because there is a rule and that rule is, “**If you live you are going to die,**” Heb. 9:27. And then, as I look at myself, I realize I used to look and see “**old folks,**” and now I am a part of the “**old folks,**” waiting the day of my death; because, it is **appointed of men** to die, Heb. 9:27.

Our text mentions another part to be considered, “**JUDGMENT.**” This is a time when the Lord will either say: “*Depart from me, ye cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels,*” Matt. 25:41, or, “*Come ye blessed of my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world,*” Matt. 25:34. The saved are on his **right hand** and the unsaved are on his **left hand**. To the saved he calls them “**sheep,**” and the lost he calls them “**goats.**” The reason is, they have been judged and one group is found **worthy** and the other group is found **unworthy!**

II Cor. 5:10 states what causes us to be **saved** or **unsaved**: “*For we must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ; that each may receive the things done in the body, according to what he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*” When we stand before the judgment-seat, whether we are saved or lost will depend on how we were **obedient** or **disobedient** to the teaching of the Lord, **during our life on earth**. One cannot **disregard** the commandments of the Lord, in life, and expect to be saved on the Day of Judgment! Please observe Matt. 25:34, 41, whether we are saved or lost is dependent upon what we did in the life we lived – did we **obey** the Lord, or did we **disobey** the Lord. Each individual’s life will be reviewed and a determination will be made by the Lord, Acts 17:31, from the life he or she had lived. “*Inasmuch as he hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead,*” Acts 17:31

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