

Judgment Day Is Coming!**1. So Be Heavenly Minded****2. AND Do Earthly Good**

"Don't Be So Heavenly Minded That You Are of No Earthly Good"

- Don't be so HM that you're no EG. Ever heard that saying before? What even mean (don't HM no EG)? I think it's crctsm of Xians who ignore needs of ppl around them. Crctsm of Xians who so focused on hvn – getting to hvn, going ch, stdyng Bible (whole life revolvs arnd faith/ch) – that almost seem out/tch w/reality, w/practcl cncrns of life here/earth & needs of ppl arnd them. It's like: head in clouds, instead down here in world – HM but no EG. And J did say: you salt/earth, lght/wrld, bec does want you do good in wrld, help others. Hwvr, on other extrm, J doesn't want you nglct sprtl cncrns either. Just turn phrase around: don't EM no HG. Do not focus all attn on earthly/wrldly things (like: money, plctcs, sprts) so that you nglct things of God: like your Sav, faith, etrnly. Col 3: **"Since, then, you have been raised w/Xp... set your minds on things above, not on earthly things" (1-2)**. So both are imp, being HM & doing EG; and J wants you focus on both, bec:
- J-Day is coming! That is focus today's servc, and that's what J emphsyzs in today's Gos: J-Day is coming! It is real; not joke; will hppn; don't know when; but no escpng it; so you have be prprd. And way J wants you be prprd is to not think of being HM and doing EG as seprrt, conflictng opps, like either/or, but rather as both/and. J wants you do both! So be HM AND do EG, bec J-Day coming.

Judgment Day Is Coming!

- Listen how J descrbs J-Day. **Vs. 31**. This: J's 2nd coming at end/wrld, on J-Day. When came 1st time, as baby Bthlhm, came hmbl/lwly. But when comes 2nd time: all glory! **Vs. 32a** – means evry prsn, from evry ntn, who's ever lived, ever. World popltn? →8 bil? Here, talking hndrds trils ppl, massv gathrng evryone ever lived, standng before throne/J. 2 Cor 5: **"We must all appear before the jdgmnt seat of Xp" (10)**. And when we do: **vs. 32b-33**, which remnds: in this wrld, really only 2 types ppl: those love/trust/bel in J as Sav from sin, & don't – shp/gts. Right now we're all mixed tog. But on J-Day, J seprt us into those 2 grps. And sharp line/dvsn btwn 2. And on that day, no crssng over from gt side to shp side, no more opprtnts to repent. Time's up; time for jdgmnt. And if jump very end: **vs. 46**. So the decsn J renders on J-Day (whether: shp/gt, R/L, hvn/hell) – that decsn is etrnal, lasts forever – that's what J says here!

So Be Heavenly Minded

- So, means: you need be HM! You have live your life knwng this day coming! Cannot ignore this or dsms as unimptnt. Etrnty not smthng take lghtly. Be HM, i.e., think long/hard re what J saying here, bec when you stand before J on J-Day, you not want be among gts. **Vs. 41**. That's hell; and no 2nd chances for those in hell. When J says, **"Depart from me,"** that jdgmnt final, & etrnal. If doesn't shake you, don't know what will! This strngst pssbl wrngng J could give: that we need turn fr sins, stop taking sin lghtly – bec sin leads unbelf, unbelf leads hell. We need be HM, which means we need take J's wrngng sersly.
- And we also need take J's prom sersly, as well – bec on that day, when J turns to his shp on righthnd side, say: **vs. 34b**. And here we have strngst pssbl comfirt J could give: that smday J'll bring us home to hvn. Hvn is dscrbd in Bible in many diff ways. J: paradise; Fr's house, many rms; comprs to wed feast; place rest, w/no sadness/sin/death, only joy/peace/etrnal life. Here, calls hvn your inhrtnc. An inhrtnc: gift smone leaves you when die. Well, one who died here is J. Gave life cross for you; suffrd/died in your place, take away all sins. And gift he leaves you: gift of frgvns, slvtn, etrnal life in hvn. And best part: J didn't stay dead; came back life. So, he can give you your inhrtnc in-prsn, and you thank him in-prsn, when see him face/face, and he welcms you into hvn, on J-Day. In some ways, J-Day most trrfyng day/all. But for us who know the love/Xp, bel Xp/Sav: happiest day/all, when hear J say: **vs. 34b**. Be HM. Live your life lookng frwr to this glorious day. You're going see J smday. Let that wndrfl truth strngthn you through these diffclt days. It's not having head in clouds; it's looking frwr to your etrnal future. So be HM...

AND Do Earthly Good

- AND, at same time, also: do EG. Remem: 2 not mutly exclsv; you can do both; and J wants you do both. In today's Gos J spcfy mntns the good wrks his shp/bels do on earth. **Vs. 35-36** – 6 exmpls of good wrks God's ppl do for others, which, when done out love/Xp, really done for God self. Remem, the bels say:

when do all these good things for you? J: vs. 40. So you show love/thnkflns to J, by doing EG for others. In contrst, J says to unbels on left: vs. 42-43. They: when? Vs. 45. IOW, if don't have faith in Xp, if don't bel in J, then no matter what EG may do for others here on earth, you're not doing it for J; so not pleasing to J; nor recgnzd by J. Heb 11, "W/o faith, it is impssbl to please God" (6).

- Now let's be clear on 1 thing here: J not tchng you're saved by wrks. I supps some could misndstnd that way: if do all these good things (feed hngry, take care sick), that's what gets into hvn; and if don't do those things, that's what keeps out hvn. But not what J saying here at all. Scripture very clear: saved by grace alone thru faith/Xp alone – that's fndtn/Xianity, bdrck/Ref. It's much better think all these exmpls of EG as evdnc/faith. The good wrks you do: evdnc you have faith/Xp. Way wrks is this: 1st you hear/bel Gos as Xian; then that Gos motvts/insprys you to life of sanctfctn, of doing EG for others, out of thanks to J. So your good wrks: extrmly imp, not for gettng into hvn (only J get you hvn), but as way saying thank you to J. They're evdnc/faith, like apples on apple tree: evdnc tree is alive. They're fruits/faith. And as Luthrns, we need remem: fruits/faith are imp part of our Xianity. J wants us to be doing these things. Does not want us sitting around, waiting for hvn, helping no one, doing no EG. He wants us to be: vs. 37-38, or taking advntg of whatever other opprtnts God places into our lives to help others.
 - ML once prchd sermon on this text; one main points: doing good for others: basicly same as keeping 5th Com. 5th Com: not murder. Obsvly murder wrong. But spirit Com isn't just: don't kill ppl; it's help ppl. In Cat L explnd "help/befrnd...evry bodily need." So I challng you: put your Xian faith into prctc by hlpng/befrndng ppl around you. Don't cocoon self in own little wrld. Get out there & help ppl. Produce fruits of faith as evdnc of your thnkflnss that God has preprd for you an inhrtnc in hvn. That's your motvtn, and that's what means to do EG.
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Be Both!

- So some may say: don't be so HM no EG. I say: don't pit 2 vs each other. Not an either/or; it's both/and. J wants both. Quite hnstly, I think more HM pers is, more EG natrly do – 1, bec living for J, and 2, know J-Day is coming. That's a fact. And that has got to impact way we live our lives, how priortz faith, and how show love to others. We are shp of GS. That is first/formst who we are. In this poltclly charged yr, try not think self so much as elphnt/dnky but as shp of GS – a shp for whom J died/rose, and to whom J will one day say vs. 34. J-Day is coming. So be HM AND do EG.

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. ³² All 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. ³³ He 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. ³⁵ For 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, ³⁶ I 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? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When 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. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I 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."