Seven Significant Judgments

Scofield Study Bible

The Judgment of the Believer's Sins in the Cross of Christ (John 12:31)

The sins of believers have been judged in the person of Jesus Christ "lifted up" on the cross. The result was death for Christ, and justification for the believer, who can never again be put in jeopardy.

The Believer's Self-Judgment (1 Cor. 11:31)

Self-judgment is not so much the believer's moral condemnation of his own ways or habits, or of himself, for allowing such ways. Self-judgment avoids chastisement. If neglected, the Lord judges, and the result is chastisement, but never condemnation

The Judgment of the Believers' Works (2 Cor. 5:10)

The judgment of the believer's works, not sins, is in question here. These have been atoned for, and are "remembered no more forever" (Heb. 10:17) but every work must come into judgment, (Matt. 12:36); (Rom. 14:10); (Gal. 6:7); (Eph. 6:8); (Col. 3:24); (Col. 3:25). The result is "reward" or "loss" (of the reward), "but he himself shall be saved". (1 Cor. 3:11-15).

The Judgment of the Nations at the Return of Christ (Matt. 25:32)

This judgment is to be distinguished from the judgment of the great white throne. Here there is no resurrection; the persons judged are living nations; no books are opened; three classes are present, sheep, goats, and brethren; the time is at the return of Christ (Matt. 25:31); and the scene is on the earth. All these particulars are in contrast with (Rev. 20:11-15). The test in this judgment is the treatment accorded by the nations to those whom Christ here call "my brethren." These "brethren" are the Jewish Remnant who will have preached the Gospel of the kingdom to all nations during the tribulation.

The Judgment of Israel at the Return of Christ (Eze. 20:37)

The passage is a prophecy of the future judgment upon Israel, regathered from all nations (see "Israel," (Isa. 1:24-26) refs. Into the old wilderness wanderings. (Eze. 20:35). The issue of this judgment determines who of Israel in that day shall enter the land for kingdom blessing. (Psa. 50:1-7); (Eze. 20:33-44); (Mal. 3:2-5); (Mal. 4:1); (Mal. 4:2)

The Judgment of Angels after the One Thousand Years (Jud. 1:6)

There will be a judgment of the fallen angels. The "great day" is the day of the Lord. (Isa. 2:9-22). As the final judgment upon Satan occurs after the thousand years, and preceding the final judgment (Rev. 20:10) it is congruous to conclude, as to the time, that other fallen angels are judged with him. (2 Pet. 2:4); (Rev. 20:10). Christians are associated with Christ in this judgment. For association with angels at judgment (1 Co. 6:3).

The Judgment of the Wicked Dead with which the History of the Present Earth Ends (Rev. 20:12)

This is the final judgment. The subjects are the "dead." As the redeemed were raised from among the dead one thousand years before (Rev. 20:5) and have been in glory with Christ during that period, the "dead" can only be the wicked dead, from the beginning to the setting up of the great white throne in space. As there are degrees of punishment (Luke 12:27); (Luke 12:48) the dead are judged according to their works. The book of life is there to answer such as plead their works for justification, for example (Matt. 7:22); (Matt. 7:23) an awful blank where the name might have been.