

The Momentous Event

Matthew 25:31-46

Introduction

1. Understanding the Person and work of the "Son of Man" (Matt.25:31)

1. The meaning of the term "Son of Man" (Ezek.2:3; Dan.7:13-14)

1. Son of man refers to a human being (Ezek.2:3; 3:1,4,10)
2. Son of Man refers to God (Dan.7:13-14)

2. Origin of the term "Son of Man" being a combination of the human, and divine

1. Gen.3:15
2. Gen.49:8-10
3. Isaiah 11:1,15
4. Dan.7:13-14

3. Jesus: His repeated claims to be the "Son of Man" in the general context of Matthew 25:31 (Matthew Chapters 24-26)

1. Son of Man: The predicted momentous event of Jesus' Second Coming (Matt.24:27)

2. Son of Man: The people mourn; and the elect are gathered together at Jesus' coming (Matt.24:30-31)

3. Son of Man: Jesus' surprise coming in Judgment (Matt.24:37-39,44)

4. Son of Man: Jesus, the final Passover Lamb making atonement for sin as predicted in Is.52-53 (Matt.26:1-2)

5. Son of Man: The OT prediction of Jesus' betrayal fulfilled by Judas (Matt.26:24-25)

6. Son of Man: The Messiah/Christ making a double claim to be fully God ("Son of Man" (Dan.7) and "Son of God" (Matt.26:63b-65a)

2. The Son of Man sitting on His glorious throne (King) (Matt.25:31)

1. The meaning of "glory"

2. The "Son of Man" is seated on His "glorious eternal throne" (Matt.25:34,40; Is.9:7; Dan.7:14)

1. Jesus is the ultimate, and final King (Matt.25:34,40)

2. He is King of an eternal and righteous Kingdom (Is.9:7; Dan.7:14)

3. An OT picture of the "Son of Man" on His glorious throne (Is.6:1-5; Jn.12:38-41)

3. The coming of the Son of Man (25:31)

1. The Second coming of the Son of Man is repeatedly mentioned in Scripture (Matt:24:3,37; 25:31; 26:64)
2. The magnitude of the Second Coming of the Son of Man
 1. Jesus the Creator is coming again
 2. Miraculously, the nations of the world will be gathered before Him (Matt.25:32a)
 3. The gathering of the nations will witness a miraculous, and final dividing of humanity (Matt.25:32b,32)
 4. The dividing of the people will be fixed forever (Matt.25:34,41,46; Lk.16:19-31)
4. The "Son of Man" will come as Saviour and Judge (Matt.25:34-46)
 1. The OT prediction of the Son of Man as Judge (Is.11:3-5)
 1. The context of this prophecy is the Messiah's work (11:1-5)
 2. His divine attributes
 1. His innate omniscience needed to judge (Perfect knowledge of all things) (11:3)
 2. His sovereign power to judge all without exception (11:4b)
 3. His three-fold holiness with which to judge (Is.11:5; 6:3)
 2. Jesus: The criteria used in the ultimate judgment (25:35-36,42-43)
 1. Question (25:35-36)
 2. The consistent message of the Bible: Good works cannot earn salvation, but good works are the necessary result of salvation
 1. Salvation is not earned through good works (Gal.2:16)
 2. Good works are the necessary result of salvation (Matt.7:16-20; Jms.2:17)
 3. The fruit of the Spirit (Gal.5:22-23; 1Cor.13)

Conclusion

1. The judgment:
2. The same Greek word for "eternity" is mentioned in both instances
3. Notice that the those who are lost, believed that they were saved (25:44)
4. The serious need for self-inquiry