

Lesson 49: A Description of the Judgment, Part 2

Memory Verse: Ephesians 4:22-24 "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

1. Zechariah chapter 3 gives a vision of the judgment.

Who is it that accuses God's people?

Zechariah 3:1 "And he showed me Joshua the high priest _____ before the _____ of the LORD, and _____ standing at his right hand to _____ him."

Revelation 12:10 "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the _____ of our _____ is cast down, which _____ them before our God _____ and _____."

Note: "While Jesus is pleading for the subjects of His grace, **Satan accuses them before God** as transgressors. The great deceiver has sought

- To lead them into skepticism,
- To cause them to lose confidence in God,
- To separate themselves from His love,
- And to break His law.

Now he points

- ☞ to the **record** of their lives,
- ☞ to the **defects** of character,
- ☞ to the **unlikeness** to Christ, which has **dishonored** their Redeemer,
- ☞ to all the **sins** that he has tempted them to commit,

and because of these **he claims them as his subjects.**" GC 484.1

2. How does Jesus respond? To the accuser of His people He declares:

"The LORD _____ thee, O _____; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem _____ thee: is not this a _____ plucked out of the _____?" Zechariah 3:2.

Note: "Jesus does not excuse their sins, but **shows their penitence and faith**, and, claiming for them forgiveness, He lifts His wounded hands before the Father and the holy angels, saying: **I know them by name**. I have graven them on the palms of My hands." GC 484.2

"The sacrifices of God are a _____ spirit: a broken and a _____ heart, O God, Thou wilt not _____." Psalm 51:17.

3. What does Jesus do when we confess our sins and yield them to Him? Zech. 3:3-5

"Now Joshua was clothed with _____ garments, and _____ before the angel. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take _____ the _____ garments from him.

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And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine _____ to pass from thee, and I will _____ thee with _____ of raiment. And I said, Let them set a fair _____ upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and _____ him with garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by."

Note: "Christ will clothe His faithful ones with His own righteousness, that He may present them to His Father 'a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing.' Ephesians 5:27. Their names stand enrolled in the book of life, and concerning them it is written: 'They shall walk with Me in white: for they are worthy.' Revelation 3:4." GC 484.2

4. What does He say to them? Zechariah 3:6-8 "And the angel of the Lord protested unto Joshua, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; **IF** thou wilt _____ in my _____, and **IF** thou wilt _____ my _____, then thou shalt also _____ my house, and shalt also keep my _____, and I will give thee _____ to _____ among _____ that stand by [the angels]. Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men _____ at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH."

Note: "The Lord Jesus is making **experiments** on human hearts through the exhibition of His mercy and **abundant grace**. He is effecting **transformations so amazing** that Satan, with all his triumphant boasting, with all his confederacy of evil united against God and the laws of His government, stands viewing them as a **fortress impregnable to his sophistries and delusions**. They are to him an **incomprehensible mystery**. The angels of God, seraphim and cherubim, the powers commissioned to cooperate with human agencies, look on with **astonishment and joy**, that fallen men, once children of wrath, are **through the training of Christ** developing **characters after the divine similitude**, to be **sons and daughters of God, to act an important part in the occupations and pleasures of heaven.**" FLB 142.3 They are truly "men wondered at".

5. "Thus will be realized the complete fulfillment of the new-covenant promise." GC 485.1

✘ Jeremiah 31:34: "I will forgive their _____, and I will _____ their sin _____ more."

✘ Jeremiah 50:20: "In those days, and in that time, saith the Lord, the _____ of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be _____; and the _____ of Judah, and they shall _____ be found."

✘ Isaiah 4:2, 3: "In that day shall the branch of the Lord be _____ and glorious, and the _____ of the earth shall be _____ and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called _____, even everyone that is _____ among the living in Jerusalem."

6. The apostle Peter tells us in Acts 3:19-20: "R_____ ye therefore, and be _____, that your _____ may be _____ out, when the times of _____ shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send _____ Christ, which before was preached unto you:"

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Note: "The work of the investigative judgment and the blotting out of sins is to be accomplished before the second advent of the Lord. Since the dead are to be judged out of the things **written in the books**, it is impossible that the sins of men should be blotted out until after the judgment at which their cases are to be **investigated**." GC 485.2

7. In Revelation 22:12 Jesus says: "And, behold, I _____ quickly; and my _____ is _____ me, to give every man _____ as his work shall be."

Note: "When the investigative judgment closes, Christ will come, and His reward will be with Him to give to every man as his work shall be." GC 485.2

8. Hebrews 9:28 "Christ was once offered to bear the _____ of many; and unto them that _____ for him shall he appear the _____ time without _____ unto _____." When Christ came the first time, He came to bear our sins, but when He comes again, He will have cleansed the heavenly sanctuary from all the record of the sins of those who have accepted Him. Now He comes to save them from this earth and to bless them with eternal life.

Note: "In the typical service the high priest, having made the atonement for Israel, came forth and blessed the congregation. So Christ, at the close of His work as mediator, will appear, 'without sin unto salvation' (Hebrews 9:28), **to bless His waiting people with eternal life**." GC 485.3

9. Leviticus 16:21-22 "And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the _____ of the _____ goat, and confess over him all the _____ of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, _____ them upon the _____ of the goat, and shall send him _____ by the hand of a fit man into the _____: And the goat shall _____ upon him all their iniquities _____ a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the _____."

Note: "As the priest, in removing the sins from the sanctuary, confessed them upon the head of the scapegoat, **so Christ will place all these sins upon Satan, the originator and instigator of sin**. The scapegoat, bearing the sins of Israel, was sent away 'unto a land not inhabited' (Leviticus 16:22); so Satan, bearing the guilt of all the sins which he has caused God's people to commit, **will be for a thousand years confined to the earth, which will then be desolate, without inhabitant**, and he will at last **suffer the full penalty of sin in the fires** that shall destroy all the wicked. Thus the great plan of **redemption** will reach its **accomplishment** in the **final eradication of sin** and the **deliverance of all who have been willing to renounce evil**." GC 485.3

10. Considering the solemnity of the judgment and the realization that we are living in the time of this judgment when either our **names** will be blotted out or or **sins** will be blotted out forever, what should occupy our minds?

 2 Corinthians 7:1 "Having therefore these _____, dearly beloved, let us _____ ourselves from _____ filthiness of the _____ [habits] and _____, [attitudes] perfecting _____ in the fear of God."

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 1 Thessalonians 3:13 "To the _____ he may _____ your _____ in _____ before God, even our Father, at the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints."

 1 Thessalonians 4:7 "For God hath not _____ us unto _____, but unto _____."

 Hebrews 12:14 "Follow peace with all men, and _____, **without which** _____ man shall _____ the Lord:"

Note: "Those who would **share the benefits** of the Saviour's mediation should **permit nothing to interfere with their duty to perfect holiness in the fear of God.** The **precious hours**, instead of being given to **pleasure**, to **display**, or to **gain seeking**, should be devoted to an earnest, prayerful study of the word of truth.

The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God.

All need a knowledge **for themselves** of the position and work of their great High Priest. Otherwise it will be **impossible** for them to **exercise the faith** which is **essential** at this time or to **occupy the position** which God designs them to fill.

Every individual has a soul to save or to lose.

Each has a case pending at the bar of God.

Each must meet the great Judge face to face.

How important, then, that **every mind contemplate often**

the solemn scene when the judgment shall sit and the books shall be opened, when, with Daniel, every individual must stand in his lot, at the end of the days." GC 488.2

11. We have an enemy who does not want us to become free from sin, because then he would lose his power over us, so he does everything to prevent us from confessing and forsaking our sins. How is this enemy described in 1 Peter 5:8?

"Be _____, be _____; because your _____ [enemy] the _____, as a roaring _____, walketh about, _____ whom he may _____:"

Note: "**Satan invents unnumbered schemes** to occupy our minds, that they may **not dwell** upon the very work with which we ought to be best acquainted. **The archdeceiver hates** the **great truths that bring to view an atoning sacrifice and an all-powerful mediator.** He knows that with him everything depends on his **diverting minds** from Jesus and His truth." GC 488.1

12. Should we allow him to divert our minds and make us his prey? 1 Peter 5:9-10

"Whom _____ **stedfast** in the _____, ... But the God of all _____, who hath _____ us unto his **eternal** _____ by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a _____, make you _____, **stablish**, _____, **settle** you."

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We **need to be settled and established on Jesus' side of the Great Controversy** so that Satan will **not** have power over us. Jesus is in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary and He is **eager** to give us **all the grace** that we **need to overcome**. We must be willing to forsake **all** our sins. When we are **willing**, all power is available to us and will be given to us when we ask in faith.

Note: "The **intercession of Christ** in man's behalf in the sanctuary above is as **essential** to the plan of **salvation** as was His death upon the cross. By His death He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in heaven. **We must by faith enter within the veil**, 'whither the forerunner is for us entered.' Hebrews 6:20.

There the light from the **cross** of Calvary is reflected.

There we may gain a **clearer insight** into the **mysteries of redemption**.

The **salvation** of man is accomplished at an **infinite expense** to heaven;

the sacrifice made is **equal** to the **broadest demands** of the **broken law** of God.

Jesus has opened the way to the Father's throne, and through His mediation the **sincere desire** of **all** who **come to Him in faith** may be presented before God." GC 489.1

13. Proverbs 28:13 tells us: "He that _____ his _____ shall _____ prosper: but whoso _____ and _____ them shall have _____."

Note: "If those who **hide** and **excuse** their **faults** could see how **Satan exults** [**rejoices exceedingly at success or victory**] **over them**, how he **taunts** [**reproaches with severe and insulting words**] **Christ and holy angels with their course**, they would make haste to confess their sins and to put them away. **Through defects** in the character, **Satan works to gain control of the whole mind**, and he knows that **if** these **defects** are **cherished**, he **will** succeed.

Therefore he is **constantly** seeking to **deceive** the followers of Christ with his **fatal sophistry** [**false and deceiving reasoning**] *that it is impossible for them to overcome*.

But Jesus pleads in their behalf His wounded hands, His bruised body; and He declares to all who would follow Him:

'My _____ is _____ for thee.' 2 Corinthians 12:9.

'_____ My _____ upon you, and _____ of Me; for I am _____ and lowly in heart: and ye shall find _____ unto your souls. For My yoke is _____, and My burden is _____.' Matthew 11:29, 30.

Let none, then, regard their defects as incurable. God will give faith and grace to overcome them." GC 489.2

14. What is God's plea to each of us? Ezekiel 33:11

"Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have _____ pleasure in the _____ of the wicked; but that the wicked _____ from his _____ and _____: **turn ye, turn ye** from your evil _____; for _____ will ye _____, O house of Israel?"

What will be the verdict in the judgment if we do turn away from our sin? Eze. 33:14-16

"When I say unto the _____, Thou shalt surely _____; if he _____ from his _____, and do that which is _____ and _____; If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, _____ in the statutes of _____, without

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committing iniquity; he shall surely _____, he shall not _____. _____ of his sins that he hath committed shall be _____ unto him: he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely _____."

We can do this because:

 Philippians 4:13 "I _____ do _____ things _____ Christ which _____ me."

 Mark 9:23 "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, _____ things are _____ to him that _____."

 Mark 10:27 "And Jesus looking upon them saith, With _____ it is _____, but _____ with God: for _____ God _____ things are _____."

Note: "We are now living in the great day of atonement. In the typical service, while the high priest was making the atonement for Israel, all were required to afflict their souls by **repentance of sin** and **humiliation before the Lord**, lest they be cut off from among the people. In like manner, all who would have their names retained in the book of life should **now**, in the few remaining days of their probation, afflict their souls before God **by sorrow for sin and true repentance**. There must be **deep, faithful searching of heart**. The light, frivolous spirit indulged by so many professed Christians must be put away. There is **earnest warfare** before all who would **subdue the evil tendencies** that strive for the mastery. The work of preparation is an individual work. We are not saved in groups. The purity and devotion of one will not offset the want of these qualities in another. Though all nations are to pass in judgment before God, yet **He will examine the case of each individual with as close and searching scrutiny as if there were not another being upon the earth**. Everyone must be tested and found without spot or wrinkle or any such thing." GC 489.3

15. At this time above all others it is essential for every soul to heed the Saviour's admonition:

Mark 13:33: "W_____ and _____: for ye know not when the time is."

Revelation 3:3: "If therefore thou shalt _____ watch, I will _____ on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not _____ what _____ I will come upon _____."

We do not know when our case will be brought up in the judgment. It has to happen sometime before Jesus comes again.

Note: "**Solemn** are the scenes connected with the closing work of the atonement.

Momentous are the interests involved therein.

The judgment is **now** passing in the sanctuary above.

For **many years** this work has been in progress.

Soon – none know how soon -- **it will pass to the cases of the living**.

In the awful presence of God **our lives are to come up in review.**" GC 490.1

16. "When the work of the investigative judgment closes, the destiny of all will have been decided for **life or death**. Probation is ended a short time before the appearing of the Lord in the clouds of heaven." GC 490.2

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Christ in Revelation 22:11,12, looking forward to that time, declares:

"He that is _____, let him be unjust _____:
and he which is _____, let him be filthy _____:
and he that is _____ let him be righteous _____:
and he that is _____, let him be holy _____.

And, behold, I come _____; and My _____ is _____ Me,
to give _____ man _____ as his work shall be."

There is nothing more that Christ can do. The unjust and the filthy have made their final choice. They will never change. The righteous and the holy have also made their final choice, there is nothing that will ever make them change either. **So Jesus' work in the heavenly sanctuary is finished.**

17. Matthew 24:37-39 "But as the days of _____ were, _____ shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were _____ the flood they were _____ and _____, marrying and giving in _____, until the _____ that Noe _____ into the ark, And _____ until the flood _____ [7 days later], and _____ them all _____; **so** shall also the _____ of the Son of man be."

Note: "The righteous and the wicked will still be living upon the earth in their mortal state – men will be planting and building, eating and drinking, **all unconscious that the final, irrevocable decision has been pronounced in the sanctuary above.** Before the Flood, after Noah entered the ark, God shut him in and shut the ungodly out; but for seven days the people, **knowing not that their doom was fixed**, continued their careless, pleasure-loving life and mocked the warnings of impending judgment. 'So,' says the Saviour, 'shall also the coming of the Son of man be.' Matthew 24:39. **Silently, unnoticed as the midnight thief, will come the decisive hour which marks the fixing of every man's destiny, the final withdrawal of mercy's offer to guilty men.**" GC 491.1

18. Mark 13:35-37 "W _____ ye _____: for ye _____ not when the master of the house _____, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you _____.
And what I say unto you **I say unto all**, _____."

Note: "**Perilous is the condition** of those who,
growing weary of their watch,
turn to the attractions of the world.

While the man of business is absorbed in the pursuit of gain,
while the pleasure lover is seeking indulgence,
while the daughter of fashion is arranging her adornments –

It may be in that hour the Judge of all the earth will pronounce the sentence:

'Thou art **weighed** in the balances, and art **found wanting**.' Daniel 5:27." GC 491.2

19. Not only should we understand these subjects very well for our own salvation, but

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why else is it important for us to be able to understand these truths? 1 Peter 3:15

"But _____ the Lord God in your _____: and be ready _____ to give an _____ to _____ man that _____ you a _____ of the _____ that is _____ you with _____ and fear:"

Note: "All who have received the light upon these subjects

are to **bear testimony** of the **great truths** which God has committed to them.

The **sanctuary** in heaven is the very **center** of Christ's work in behalf of men.

It concerns every soul living upon the earth.

It opens to view **the plan of redemption**, bringing us down to the **very close of time**

and revealing the **triumphant issue** of the contest between righteousness and sin.

It is of the **utmost importance** that **all should thoroughly investigate these subjects**

and **be able to give an answer to everyone that asketh them**

a reason of the hope that is in them." GC 488.3