

## The Three Eternal Destinies #152 Sin, Righteousness, and Judgment

*And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment... (Jn 16:8) Jn 16:8 indicates the basic ingredients of the good news, and there is no good news until the Holy Spirit comes (Jn 7:37-39).*

*...concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me... (Jn 16:9)*

*Gen 3:22 and Jms 4:17 show the fact of sin which holds all of mankind under the sentence of (the first) death (Heb 9:27). But for those who witness the advent of His Spirit in His people, the sin of unbelief (cowardice, Rev 21:8) will weigh heavier even than the guilt of their evil deeds (Jn 3:18,36).*

*...and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me... (Jn 16:10)*

*The only way anyone can behold Him is by beholding those who have His Spirit — the Holy. Their righteousness, which comes from Him (Phil 3:9; Rom 4:5), exposes the unrighteousness of the Unjust and Filthy, and even the natural righteousness of the Righteous. They are the evidence of the availability of God's righteousness (2 Cor 5:21). Whether Jew, Christian, or righteous people of the nations — all must give up their own righteousness as all other things — family and possessions — and count them *dilthy* rags as far as earning God's very own glory and righteousness, which comes from Him on the basis of Rom 10:17. God gave us His very own righteousness through Messiah. He put our sins upon Messiah, and in exchange He gave us His righteousness. So the righteousness of those in Rev 22:11 is no longer counted for anything (Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; 2:11) once the Holy Spirit brings conviction.*

*...and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged (Jn 16:11).*

*The judgment of Satan at the cross of Messiah is only as real as the overcoming life of those who claim to have Messiah's Spirit dwelling in them, as they tread the evil one underfoot. They speak of the reality of the judgment to come (Heb 9:27; Rom 2:16; Rev 20:12-15; Jn 5:29; Mt 25:46) and how to be delivered from it (Jn 5:24).*

*So when the Holy Spirit comes to once again dwell in His House, which has been resurrected from the dead bones (Eze 37) — the resurrection of the Twelve Tribes of Israel (Isa 49:6; Acts 26:7) to bring about what God has promised Abraham (Mt 21:43) — He, the Holy Spirit in His people and through the Word, with new knowledge that gives understanding, enlightenment, and revelation, will convict the world of its sin. They will expose the Unjust and Filthy lives of the first category of Rev 22:11, and even the sins of the righteous or good people of the second category of Rev 22:11, who have also fallen short of God's highest ideal or glory. **Glory** means worth — man's original worthiness of God — which only the redeemed can now attain to (Col 1:10 14).*

The Holy Spirit will convince the world of its sin (of not even being able to believe, which accounts for its sin) and of the righteousness that they can have in Messiah (Jn 7:37-39), and deliverance from the judgment to come (Jn 5:22-29). This conviction makes available the righteousness which comes from God and not from a person's own goodness, which delivers them from the judgment to come (Jn 5:24,25,28,29; Rev 20:11-15), and even from Heb 9:27, since in Messiah we become the very righteousness of God (Rom 4:5; 2 Cor 5:21).

Since Satan has been already judged at the cross of Messiah, and because Messiah has already gone to the Father (as Jn 7:37-39; 16:5-7), so Jn 16:8 says that when He comes His righteousness comes with Him to be given to all who repent from their sins and unbelief. When we receive His Spirit, we receive His righteousness, His love (Rom 5:5). Eph 1:13 — His Spirit is available to all who hear and believe (Jn 3:18), and by this we are delivered from the judgment to come, especially from the judgment for those who refuse to believe and obey the gospel (2 Ths 1:8-9).

The three topics that the Holy Spirit will convict the world of when He comes through the demonstration of His people who live and speak His words are: 1) sin, because of unbelief; 2) righteousness that comes from God; and 3) judgment, which we can now be delivered from (today).

Jn 16:8 — Convict the world of its sin — *no*sins, but *sin* — its fallenness to the point of no return, its depravity (Isa 24:5-6). It is the sin of Rev 12:9 — being led astray from the everlasting covenant (Rev 20:3,8). Sin is exactly what Jms 4:17 says it is.

Rom 1:17 — The gospel reveals the righteousness of God:

*Yahweh abides forever; He has established His throne for judgment, and He will judge the world in righteousness; He will execute judgment for the peoples with equity. Yahweh also will be a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble, and those who know Your name will put their trust in You; for You, O Sovereign, have not forsaken those who seek You (Ps 9:7-10).*

*Gen 18:25 — Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?*