

Barn Essential Beliefs Series:
Part 13

A Severe Mercy: Eternal Judgment

February 21, 2021
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Previously in the Essential Beliefs Series

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Eternal Judgment: a Fundamental Doctrine

“... the elementary teaching about Christ...
[*consists of*] a foundation of:
repentance from dead works
and faith toward God...
the resurrection of the dead,
and eternal judgment.”
Heb. 6:1-2

Beliefs have Consequences

Even "Non-Essential" beliefs have real-life consequences ~ most definitely in our life experience here and now, and quite possibly in the hereafter.

But Essential beliefs can and will have Eternal Consequences!

What is eternal judgment?

“eternal”: (166) “*aíonios*” ~ carries an idiomatic meaning
determined by the noun it modifies.

“judgment”: (2917) “*kree-mah*” ~ decision, condemnation,
a legal judgment (e.g., death sentence).

Therefore, “eternal judgment” means God’s final decision
as to the ultimate disposition of all beings.

Will it be “eternal life” or the “second death”?

Jesus Christ is currently reigning
as Heavenly King and Lord. He:

“... has taken His seat at the right hand of the Majesty
in the heavens....” Heb. 8:1-2; Eph. 1:20

“...Son of Man...came up to the Ancient of Days...
and to Him was given dominion...”

Daniel 7:13-14; Psalm 110:1-2

“...rules in the midst of His enemies.” Acts 2:34-35; Heb. 10:13

“God has highly exalted Him...Jesus is Lord...! Phil. 2:9-11

“...King of Kings and Lord of Lords.” Revelation 19:15-16

“...He must reign until...all enemies underfoot.” 1 Cor. 15:25-26

Jesus will return as King, Lord, and Judge!

The authority to execute judgment is Christ's:

“For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son...

For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself; and

He gave Him authority to execute judgment because He is the Son of Man.
...an hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs shall hear His voice and shall come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.. my judgment is just because I do not seek my own will but the will of Him who sent me.”

John 5: 22, 26-30

The primary “good deed” is faith in Christ:

“...What must we do that we might work the works of God?
Jesus answered and said, This is the work of God,
that you believe in Him Whom He has sent.”

John 6: 28-29

All “good works” that glorify God and are worthy of reward
flow out of a heart of faith in Jesus Christ and
the trust that His Spirit in us does the works.
It is faith in Christ that makes the difference between a
resurrection to eternal life or final condemnation to death.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus said:

“...when the Son of Man comes in His glory, He will sit on His glorious throne...and He will separate them...as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats...the sheep on His right (blessed to inherit the Kingdom) and the goats on the left... into the eternal fire...[and] eternal punishment....”

Matthew 25:31-46

To those who object that they prophesied, cast out demons, and did miracles in His name, Jesus will say,

“I never knew you. Depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!”

Matthew 7:21-23

At The Barn, we believe that
In the fullness of the Father's perfect timing...:

Jesus will return personally, visibly, and bodily...
...as the Righteous Judge of all...;

and that

Believers will experience eternal life with Him
in resurrected glorified bodies...and will
dwell with God in New Heavens and New
Earth.

Jesus reassures us,
His born-again, blood-washed people:

“Truly, truly, I say to you: he who hears My word
and believes Him Who sent Me has eternal life and
does not come into judgment.” John 5:24

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says
to the churches:
he who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.”
Revelation 2:11

But... what about those who do NOT believe?
What about those who do NOT confess Jesus
as Lord and Savior?

What does God say about them and their fate?
What about those who prey on the vulnerable?
Who commit cruel injustice against the innocent?
Who lie, steal, rape, plunder, and murder?
Who despise God's mercy and who use their
free will to rebel against and to mock God?

Questions about Eternal Judgment

Some thoughts from C. S. Lewis drawn from:

The Problem of Pain

The Great Divorce

Mere Christianity

The Space Trilogy

God in the Dock, The Trouble with X...

But... what about good and sincere people from other religions who have never heard the gospel?

And... what about my dear departed loved ones?

God is merciful, good, faithful,
all-knowing, perfectly just and fair.

Ezekiel 33:11; II Pet. 3:9; I Tim. 2:4

Common Errors

Will all be saved?

What about Hyper-grace teachings?

What about Inclusionism?

What about Universalism?

What about purgatory?

Do we really have to believe in hell?

And even if it exists, is it really *final*?

Varying Perspectives On the Non-Essentials

What is “hell”?

Tartarus, hades, and Gehenna

What is the nature of the punishment?

Is immortality conditional?

apollumi vs. aionios zoe

Eternal Judgment...

A Severe Mercy?

Visitors in Hell...?

Two Personal Experiences

Athet Pyan Shinthaw Paulu
Kenneth E. Hagin

Closing Benediction:

1 Corinthians 2:9; Isaiah 64:4/65:17-25

“Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard,
and which have not entered into the heart of man.

All that GOD has prepared for those who love Him!”

“...Behold! I create new heavens and a new earth,
and the former shall not be remembered...

...Be glad and rejoice!... The voice of weeping
no more shall be heard! [No one shall harm my people.]

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain,
saith the LORD!”

Conclusion and Segue to Worship

“We have paganized our soteriology
(our ideas about salvation);
We have moralized our anthropology
(our ideas about being human);
We have platonized our eschatology
(our ideas about the future).”

N. T. Wright