

Judgment by the Son

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BIG SANDY, Texas—Years ago, I gave a sermon titled "That God May Be All in All." I chose the title of the sermon from the concluding phrase in 1 Corinthians 15:28.

1 Corinthians 15:24, 28—"Then comes the end, when He [Son] delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He [Son] puts an end to all rule and all authority and power . . . Now when all things are made subject to Him [Son], then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him [Father] who put all things under Him [Son], that God may be all in all."

I also quoted John 5:22-23.

John 5:22-23—"For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him."

I proceeded to give 10 ways we can show honor to the Son. This week we will look at the ninth concept—the judgment of the Son.

Savior through the Son

It is interesting to note that the Bible refers to both the Father and the Son as our Savior. Notice two scriptures.

1 Timothy 4:10—"For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe."

John 4:42—"Then they said to the woman, 'Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.' "

Therefore, Bible students conclude that the Father is the Savior through the Son.

Judgment through the Son

Likewise, the Bible refers to both the Father and the Son as giving judgment. Notice two scriptures.

Romans 14:12—"So then each of us shall give account of himself to God."

2 Corinthians 5:10—"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

Therefore, Bible students conclude that the Father is the Judge through the Son.

Responsibility and authority

Earlier, we quoted John 5:22 that mentioned that the Father gave responsibility for judgment to the Son.

It is important to realize that, when the Father gave the responsibility, He also gave authority to the Son.

John 5:27—"And has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man."

And, when responsibility and authority are given, there is also accountability.

John 5:30—"I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me."

Based on understanding

There is much that could be said about the righteous judgment of the Son. Let's note that the Son's judgment is based upon what a person understands.

Notice what the Son said about a person who does not understand.

John 12:47—"And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world."

Notice what the Son said about a person who does understand.

John 12:48—"He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day."