

# **SUBJECT : MEETING HUMAN NEEDS**

## **BIBLE BASIS:**

Lesson Scripture:  
Matthew 25:31-46

## **BIBLE TRUTH:**

Meeting the needs of others is important in the eyes  
of Jesus

**MEMORY VERSE: READ Matt. 25:40**

## **LESSON AIM:**

That your students will be diligent about acts of  
mercy.

# Introduction

- “All rise!” It is a familiar courtroom scene. The spectators suddenly stop their nervous chatter and stand up. The defendant, lawyers, and jurors come to attention. All eyes are fixed on the robed figure who stride importantly into the room. The judge takes a seat at an elevated desk, looking down on the proceedings. In this courtroom the judge is in complete control.
- One day the command “All rise!” will be given for the final time. On that day it will not be addressed to a few dozen spectators in some local court. It will be addressed to the whole world. The dead will rise for their graves; then the living saints will join them. Together they will meet the Lord in the air. Thessalonians 4:16-17
- On the last day of human history the Lord will sit in judgment over all the earth. He will judge in behalf of the Father, and it is the Father who will that the son exercise this judgment. John 5:22, 27, 30
- When Jesus considers the lives of people, one thing He will be looking for as evidence of faith in Him is how they have treated their fellow humans. Have they cared for the needy? Have they done anything to meet human needs.

# Look At You Now

- Matthew 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: [32] And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: [33] And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. (1Corn 6:2)
- People confuse this passage by calling it The General Judgment thinking it is the same as the White Thorne Judgment of Rev. 20:11-15.
- There is no such thing as a General Resurrection in the Bible.
- The saints have their works judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ immediate after the rapture. 2Corn 5:1-11.
- The unsaved dead will be raised to face Christ at the White Throne of Judgment at the close of the 1000 year rein of Christ. Rev. 20:1-15.
- The judgment spoken of here in Matt. 25 is the judgment of the Gentile nations at the close of the tribulation.

# Let's Compare Judgment #4 & 5

- 1. **Matthew 25:31-46**
- 2. No Resurrection
- 3. Living Nations Judged
- 4. On the Earth
- 5. No books Mentioned
- 6. Three classes named. Sheep  
Goats, Brethren
- 7. Time. Before the Millennium
- 1. **Revelations 20:11-15**
- 2. Dead Judged
- 3. A Resurrection
- 4. Heaven and Earth Gone
- 5. Books Opened
- 6. One Class of people named.  
The Dead
- 7. Time – After the Millennium

This comparison reveals the fact that one of these judgments is on the earth, and the other in the heavens and they are separated 1000 years apart.

# Who's On Trail ?

- [34] Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world
- In Gods covenant with Abraham, He promised that all nations of the earth (gentile nations) would be blessed through Israel. Gen 12:1-3. During the tribulation, God will be purging Israel, so that at the close of the seven-year period, there will be a believing covenant waiting to meet Christ and Christ will establish His kingdom on this earth , as promised in Luke 1:31-33 and 67-80
- The reward is an inheritance—the inheritance of the Kingdom of God.
- An inheritance is a gift. It is given because the giver cares enough to give it, and it becomes one's own possession as much as it was the former owner's. The inheritance is a kingdom. It is a place of responsibility and duty, of ruling and reigning, of honor and joy, of wealth and glory. The inheritance or the kingdom had been prepared for the sheep. John 14:2-3. It was built to suit them and designed for their habitation. (2 Cor. 4:15).
- The kingdom had been prepared from the foundation of the world. It was in the eternal plan and will of God (Eph.. 1:4-5, 11-12).

# Who Are We Really Ministering To?

- [35] For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: [36] Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.
- Those gentile nations that showed mercy to Israel during the tribulation period are the ones on the Kings right-hand. They demonstrated their faith in Jesus by the mercy they show to Gods people during the 7 year tribulation period.
- Christ has so *identified* Himself with men in their pain and suffering that He counts men as one with Himself. Christ clearly said that if we minister to men, we are ministering to Him personally. He is identified as one with His people (Matthew 8:17, Isaiah 53:4). He accused Saul of actually persecuting Him when Saul was threatening and slaughtering Christians (Acts 9:4).

# Only What You Do For Christ Will Last

- [37] Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? [38] When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? [39] Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? [40] And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.
- Christ has so *identified* Himself with men in their pain and suffering that He counts men as one with Himself. Christ clearly said that if we minister to men, we are ministering to Him personally. He is identified as one with His people (Matthew 8:17; cp. Isaiah 53:4). He accused Saul of actually persecuting Him when Saul was threatening and slaughtering Christians (Acts 9:4).

# The Ultimate Rejection

- [41] Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: [42] For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: [43] I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.
- The goats will be cut off and separated from God. Christ will say, “Depart from me”—words that mean a world of misery, a world of outer darkness, a world of weeping and gnashing of teeth, a world of everlasting punishment, a world without God and hope.
- The goats rejected Christ and refused to be identified with Him while on earth. When they stand before Him, they will never have been associated with Him. Therefore, they will not be allowed to associate with Him.
- Note what Christ calls the goats: “Ye cursed.” They did not choose to be called “brothers”, nor did they choose to inherit the kingdom. They will inherit the curse Gal. 3:10. As Scripture says “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Hebrews 10:31). The goats will be placed into “everlasting fire



# Cain Asked God; Am I My Brothers Keeper?

- [44] Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? [45] Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. [46] And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.
- The basis of judgment. The goats failed to minister to the needs of others. Cain asked the question, Am I my brothers keeper? Gen 4:9-11
- The goats lived a selfish life. They live selfishly while the world around them is suffering with hunger and sickness and death.
- The goats were spiritually blind. The goats are people who refuse to see the truth about Christ, that He *identifies Himself* with the suffering masses, with the pain and need of individuals. They refuse to see that they are failing to help Christ when they fail to help the needy.

# Judgment #1 As a Sinner

- Subjects – Believers as to “Sin”
- Time – A.D. 30
- Place - Calvary
- Basis of Judgment.- Christ’s Finished Work. John 19:28-30
- Result – 1. Death as to Christ.
  2. Redemption and Justification as to the Believer.
- This judgment is PAST. The Bible proof of the results of this Judgment are Rom 10:4. “Christ is the End of the Law for righteousness to every one that believeth.” Rom. 8:1-2, John 5:24
- The believer’s Judgment for Sin then is **PAST** and was settled at the Cross. But we must not forget that the Judgment of the Believers is **Threefold. As a Sinner, As a Son, As a servant**
- As we have already seen this Judgment as a **Sinner is Past**. Let us look at the next Judgment.

# Judgment #2 As a Son

- As soon as the sinner accepts Christ as his personal Savior; the sin question is settled once and for all. For if our iniquities are laid on Him (Jesus), then they are not on Us. Isa. 53:5-6, Heb. 10:10
- But the “Sin” question, and the “Sins” question are two different things. Christ died on the Cross to atone for “Sin”, to pay the penalty of Adams disobedience in the Garden of Eden. “Sin” is that tendency in mankind to do wrong which we call Natural Depravity. We do not get rid of this tendency by the New Birth, but we get a counteracting force called the New Nature. John 3:3, Rom. 8:1-2
- We become a dual personality composed of the Old and New Natures, and the one that predominates depends on which one we feed and which we starve. This explains the warfare that Paul described as his experience after his conversion, in Rom 7:15-25
- This warfare will continue until the Old nature is eradicated at death. “Sins” are the outward acts of wrong doing that we commit as the result of our tendency to sin. These “Sins” must be put away daily by confession. 1John 2:1, 1John 1:9
- Our judgment As Sons is for unconfessed sins. The punishment is **chastisement not condemnation**. Heb 12:5-11, 1Corn 11:31-32
- Our duty then as Sons is to self-judge ourselves daily, confess our sins and so avert the chastisement of our Heavenly Father.

# Judgment #3 As a Servant

Subject – believers as to his Works.

- Time – After the Church is caught out
- Place – Judgment Seat of Christ (in the Air).
- Basis of Judgment – Our Works
- Result – Reward or Loss
- This Judgment is future. 2 Cor 5:10. This judgment is for **Believer Only**. The time of the judgment is when the Lord comes. 1 Cor. 4:5 and the Place is in the “Air”. 1 Thes 4:17 at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- It will not be a Judgment in the sense of a trial to see whether the judged are innocent (**saved**) or guilty (**lost**), for it is judgment of the **saved only**. It will be like the judges stand at a fair or race track where rewards are distributed to the successful contestants. 1 Cor 9:24-27, It is not a judgment for **Sin** but a judgment for **Works**. 1 Cor 3:11-15.
- This is where we will be rewarded for our works. The Bible mentions 5 Crowns. Crown of Life. James 1:12 Rev 2:10...Crown of Glory 1 Peter 5:2-4...Crown of Rejoicing 1 Thes 2:19-20... Crown of Righteousness 2 Tim 4:8... Incorruptible Crown 1 Cor 9:25-27

# What Are The Consequences For Sins

- Sin is the most destructive disease known to mankind. Its effects are far reaching. It cuts off **fellowship** with the Father and the Son. 1John 1:6-7 When you have **unrepentant sin** in your life your conscientious is weaken and uneasy. When you sin, you not only have a negative impact on yourself, you bring a reproach against the body of Christ. When you sin you also cause unbelievers to question the integrity of the Bible. 1Corn 8:9 And finally Sin is corporate in its effect, because it effects all the people to whom you have a relationship.
- 1John 2:1 You have a defense attorney. Use him.
- Proverb 28:13 If you cover your sin, you cancel your benefit package.
- 1John 1:9-10 Confess your sins, he is just and faithful to forgive us
- Hebrews 12:6 Because he loves you he will chasten and not condemn
- 1Corn 11:30-32 unrepentant sin can bring sickness, weakness, and death
- Isaiah 49:13-15 The bottom line God will not forsake you because of your sin.
- 2Sam. 7:12-15 God's way of dealing with our sins.

# What Is The Most Lethal Form Of Deceit?

- The most lethal form of deceit is the one brought about by personal sin.
- Sin is like a powerful drug. After the initial jolt you become progressively addicted until you lose the ability to break free.
- This in turn leads to dangerous rationalizations. You tell yourself that sin is inevitable and that it will not hurt you. Nothing can be further from the truth! The wages of sin is death. Rom 6:23

# Would You Work For This Employer?

- Monday, you go to work for this employer for a predetermined wage. Friday 2 weeks later, at the end of the pay period its time to get paid. You go into your bosses office to pickup your pay check. He reaches in his top desk draw and pulls out a nickel plated 44 caliber pistol and points it at your head and blows your brains out.
- That is what sin does. It is serious, dangerous and lethal.
- If there is sin in your life repent, renounce it and return to the Lord right now. 1John 1:9
- God cannot bless you until you have dealt with **YOUR SIN** because God is Holy.
- In fact, there is no surer way to give the accuser of the brethren (Satan) an opportunity to make a motion requesting the appointment of a spiritual receiver (Satan) than to try to hide sin. Rev 12:10

# Would God Allow This to Happen To Me?

- God will grant Satan's request because He knows that once we reach this level of deceit, we will not be willing to renounce our own sins. Matt. 18:32-35
- This in turn, calls for a firm hand. In fact, this is what Paul did in Corinth to a person who insisted on justifying sin. 1Corn 5:1-5 and later on to two other individual. 1Tim 1:20
- Because sin is so disruptive, God will use whatever means necessary, including Satan, to bring us to a point of repentance. Heb. 10:28-31



# Sin Is Never Acceptable

- Daniel and Joseph understood this principle
- Joseph went to jail rather than succumb to sexual immorality.
- Daniel and his companions turned down the king's food on one occasion and faced his fiery furnace on another, rather than compromise their conviction.
- How much God can entrust in you is determined by how much sin you refuse to take from the devil and the flesh.
- You must learn how to love God more than you love yourself to overcome the sin in your members. 2Cor 5:14