

**WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST**

**Lesson 10 - Part 3**

**JESUS CHRIST, HEAD OF THE CHURCH, AND FUTURE REIGN**

**Jesus Christ judges the church in heaven**

1. When a believer dies, where do his soul and spirit go?

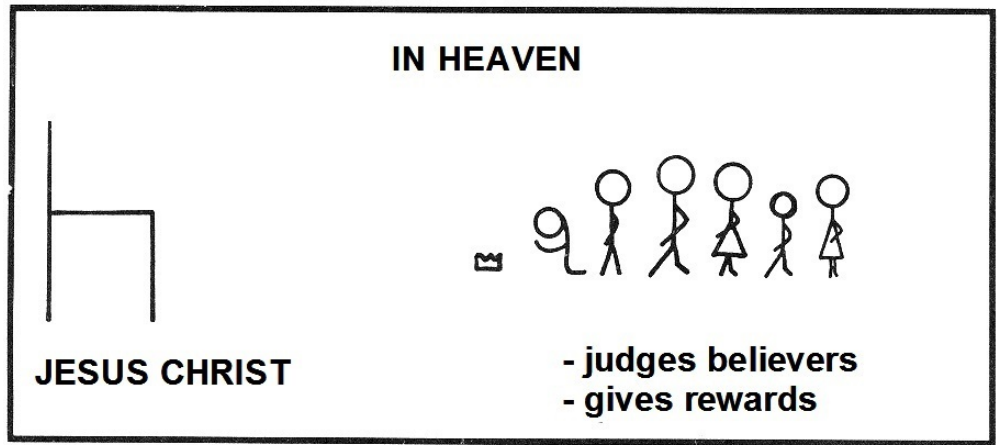
When will his soul and spirit be united with his body?

When Jesus comes again, who will be raised first?

Who also will be taken up to heaven?

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2. When a believer dies, the soul and spirit go to be with Jesus Christ in heaven. When Jesus Christ comes again, the soul and spirit are united with the body. The believers who died will be raised first. The believers who are living will also be taken up to heaven.



Only believers are involved in the rapture. After Jesus Christ takes the

believers to heaven, He will judge them. This judgment is not for sin. When a person believes in Jesus as Saviour, he accepts that Christ was judged in his place on the cross.

John 5:24

*I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.*

Who will not be condemned?

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3. The one who believes in Jesus will not be condemned. This means that the believer will not go to hell.

However, Christ will judge the believer **after** he gets to heaven. Let us see what we can learn about this judgment.

**Read** 2 Corinthians 5:1-10. Do these verses speak about those who believe or those who do not believe?

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4. These verses talk about those who believe in Jesus Christ. It is important to please the Lord in all we do all the time. Because of His death for us, we want to love Him and serve Him.

2 Corinthians 5:9,10

*So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

Why should we please the Lord?

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5. We also want to please the Lord because we all must appear before the judgment seat of Christ. Christ will not judge as to whether we can

stay in heaven or not. This judgment is about rewards for things we have done while we were alive. Jesus Christ looks at our hearts and so He will judge in all fairness.

Who will judge the believers after the resurrection?

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6. Christ will judge the believers after the resurrection. **Read** these verses and see what Jesus Christ will look at when He judges.

1 Corinthians 4:2-4

1 Thessalonians 2:19,20

James 1:12

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7. 1 Corinthians 4:2-4 - Jesus Christ will judge for faithfulness in the work He has given us to do. To be faithful means to obey God and to do so all the time.

1 Thessalonians 2:19,20 - Jesus Christ will reward those who bring people to him. Paul says those whom he has won for Christ will be his crown when Jesus comes again.

James 1:12 - The person who stands up under tests will receive the crown of life.

There are other things too for which Jesus Christ will give rewards when He judges the believers.

Will Jesus Christ be able to give you some rewards?

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8. Talk to the Lord Jesus Christ about your life. Ask Him to help you live pleasing to Him. Ask Him to help you to be faithful, to stand up under temptation, and to tell others about Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:10

*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

Who will be the judge?

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9. Those who believe in Christ will stand before His judgment seat in heaven after the resurrection. People who do not believe in Jesus also will have to stand before a judgment seat of Christ. However, these will stand before Christ in the great white throne judgment. We will talk about this in Part 5.

Romans 14:10,11

*You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God."*

Who will have to stand before the judgment seat of Christ?

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10. Every one will have to stand before God and give an account. To give an account means to say why you have done what you did or why you did not do something.

After Jesus Christ comes for the believers, who will judge them?

Who will be judged in this judgment?

Will this judgment be to let people into heaven or to give rewards?

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WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT GOD AND JESUS CHRIST by Helen Pope.  
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