

The Principles of Christian Religion

**A Study through the Baptist
Catechism using Benjamin
Beddome's *Scriptural Exposition***

Outline of the BC

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- II. What We are to Believe: 7-43
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Outline of Questions 32-43

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 - Benefits in this Life (Q. 35)
 - Justification (Q. 36)
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 - Benefits at Death (Q. 40)
 - Benefits at the Resurrection (Q. 41)
 - [Unbelievers at Death (Q. 42)]
 - [Unbelievers at the Day of Judgment (Q. 43)]

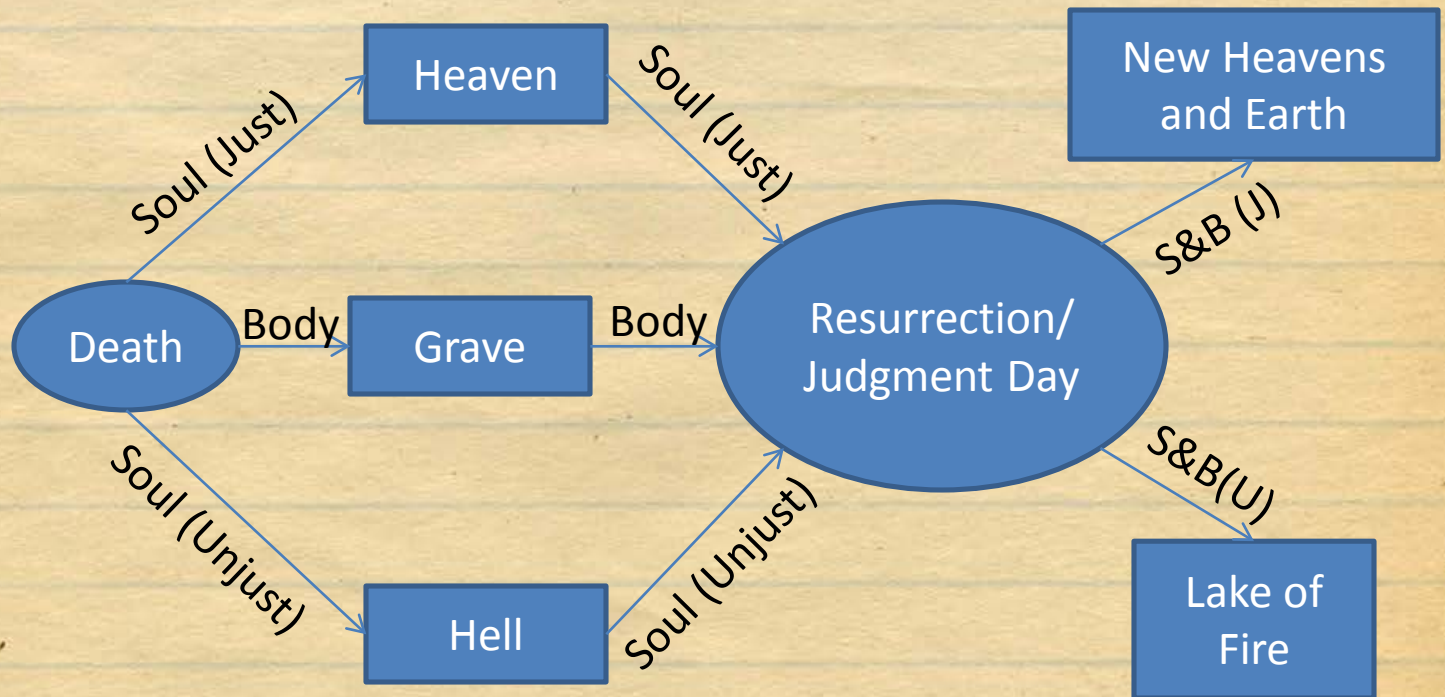
Question and Answer 43

Q. 43: What shall be done to the wicked, at the Day of Judgment?

A. At the Day of Judgment the bodies of the wicked, being raised out of their graves, shall be sentenced, together with their souls, to unspeakable torments with the devil and his angels for ever.¹

¹ John 5:28,29; Matthew 25:41,46; 2 Thessalonians 1:8,9

The Biblical "Afterlife"



Question and Answer 43

1. The Resurrection of the Wicked

- The wicked will rise again (Acts 24:15).
- They will rise at Christ's call (John 5:28).
- It will be a shameful resurrection to such (Dan. 12:2).
- And a dreadful one (John 5:29).
- And the judgment will follow (Jude 15).

Question and Answer 43

2. The Day of Judgment for the Wicked

- The Day of Judgment is called a great day (Rev. 16:14).
- It will be a day of discovery (1 Cor. 4:5).
- And of conviction (Jude 15).
- And of recompense (2 Thess. 1:6).
- And of wrath (Rev. 6:17).
- Sinners would be glad not to appear on that day (Rev. 6:16).
- But they must appear (Rev. 20:12).

Question and Answer 43

2. The Day of Judgment for the Wicked

- The judgment will be public (Psa. 50:4).
- And impartial (Rom. 2:11).
- And very strict (Eccl. 12:14).
- It will extend to the thoughts (Rom. 2:16).
- And to the words (Matt. 12:37).
- And to sins of omission (Matt. 25:42).
- And to sins of commission (Col. 3:25).
- Sentence will be immediately passed (Matt. 25:41).

– And as speedily executed (Matt. 25:46)

Question and Answer 43

- Excursus: The Timing of Judgment Day
 - According to the Dispensationalist scheme, the Final Judgment will be separated from the Return of Christ by over a thousand years.
 - According to Scripture, the resurrection of both the just and the unjust will occur at the Return of Christ, and the Judgment will begin immediately.
 - II Thess. 1:4-10; Dan. 12:1-2; John 5:28-29; II Pet. 3:3-15

Question and Answer 43

- Excursus: The Saints on Judgment Day
 - Relationship to Justification?
 - Role of Works?
 - Levels of Reward?
 - Evangelical Purgatory?

Question and Answer 43

- Excursus: The Saints on Judgment Day

- Key Passages:

- Matt. 25:41-46; I Cor. 3:10-15

- Key Questions:

- What is being judged?
- What is being determined?

Question and Answer 43

- Excursus: The Saints on Judgment Day

- Key Questions:

- What is being judged?

- Our works, not our sins

- » Our sins are already judged in Christ; we already stand righteous before God through justification.

- There will be no screening of our sins.

- There will be no punishment (shame, regret, etc.).

- » Our works are brought forward, in part, as public evidence of our justification (James 2:14-26).

Question and Answer 43

- Excursus: The Saints on Judgment Day

- Key Questions:

- What is being determined?

- Our reward, not our eternal destiny

- » There do appear to be varying levels of reward at the Judgment (I Cor. 3:14-15).
- » This rewarding is held out in Scripture as a motivation to our good works and holiness.
- » Yet, it must be remembered that any good work we do is ultimately the result of Christ's work in us and must be done for His glory, not our own.

- We will cast our crowns at His feet.

Question and Answer 43

3. The Eternal State of the Wicked

- Hell will be the place of the sinner's torment (Psa. 9:17).
- And God the inflictor of it (Psa. 11:6).
- And devils their companions in it (Matt. 25:41).
- And the body as well as the soul will be the subject of it (Matt. 5:29).

Question and Answer 43

3. The Eternal State of the Wicked

- The misery of the damned will be unmixed (Rev. 14:10).
- And extreme (1 Thess. 2:16).
- And intolerable (Ezek. 22:14).
- And without intermission (Rev. 14:11).
- And without end (ibid.; cf. Matt. 25:46).
- This will be the portion of all the wicked (Rom. 2:9).