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Waiting for mercy.

Jude 1:21

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### Jude 20-21

**Jude 20-21** But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

Today we are looking at Jude's 3<sup>rd</sup> participle on how to keep to yourselves in the love of God.

Jude 21 waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

In order to fully grasp what Jude has written here, "waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life" we need to understand this verse as Jude's readers in the first century understood it. According to Jude, his readers most likely heard the apostles preach the gospel.

**Jude 17-18** But you, beloved, must remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, that they were saying to you,

I'm going to start by looking at 2 subjects before we look at Jude 21.

1<sup>st</sup> We will look at a brief definition of the Gospel in Romans 1.

2<sup>nd</sup> We will look at how the apostles preached the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in the book of Acts.

The word gospel means a good or joyful message.

What is the Gospel?

Websters 1828 – The history of the birth, life, actions, death, resurrection, ascension and doctrines of Jesus Christ; or a revelation of the grace of God to fallen man through a mediator, including the character, actions, and doctrines of Christ, with the whole scheme of salvation, as revealed by Christ and his apostles.

Let's take a brief look at the Gospel in Romans 1.

**Romans 1:1-17** Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, having been

set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, who was designated as the Son of God in power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we received grace and apostleship for *the* obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of His name, among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called *as* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world. For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son, is my witness *as to* how without ceasing I make mention of you, always in my prayers earnestly asking, if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you. For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be strengthened; that is, to be mutually encouraged, *while* among you, by each other's faith, both yours and mine. I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that often I have planned to come to you (and have been prevented so far) so that I may have some fruit among you also, even as among the rest of the Gentiles. I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. In this way, for my part, I am eager to proclaim the gospel to you also who are in Rome. For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE BY FAITH."

**Who needs to hear the proclamation of the Gospel?**

Everyone, believers and unbelievers.

**Romans 1:14-15** I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. In this way, for my part, I am eager to **proclaim the gospel** to you also who are in Rome.

**Whose Gospel is it?**

**It's God's Gospel.**

**Romans 1:1-2** Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called *as* an apostle, having been set apart for the **gospel of God**, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,

**Whose power must be at work when God's Gospel is being preached or proclaimed?**

God's power.

**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Whose glory is revealed in God's Gospel or in other words, who gets the glory for God's Gospel?

God gets all the glory.

**Romans 1:5** for the sake of His name

Who is the main focus of God's Gospel?

The Lord Jesus Christ.

**Romans 1:1-8** Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, having been set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, who was designated as the Son of God in power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we received grace and apostleship for the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of His name, among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world.

**Romans 1:9** For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son

What is the main message of God's Gospel that God commands the apostles to preach?

Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified, God raised Him up again on the third day and that by Jesus' resurrection, God has made Him both Lord and Christ and the Lord Jesus Christ whom God exalted to His right hand, God has bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, in which He will come again to judge the living and the dead in righteousness. All the prophets bear witness that through Jesus Christ everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins. With the focus of all the apostles preaching being on the resurrection and exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Romans 1:1-4** having been set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, who was designated as the Son of God in power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord

Do you know that without the resurrection of Jesus Christ, your faith is vain, worthless, and your sins are not forgiven?

**1 Corinthians 15:14** And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

**1 Corinthians 15:17** And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

**Romans 4:25** He who was delivered over on account of our transgressions, and was raised on account of our justification.

Let's see how the apostles preached the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in the book of Acts.

As we go through the book of Acts, we will see the exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ being preached, so let's get a quick definition of Christ's exaltation.

**WLC Q. 51: What was the estate of Christ's exaltation? Answer: The estate of Christ's exaltation comprehends of his resurrection, ascension, sitting at the right hand of the Father, and his coming again to judge the world.**

**Acts 2:22-40** "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God did through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— this *Man*, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of lawless men and put *Him* to death. But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. For David says of Him, 'I SAW THE LORD CONTINUALLY BEFORE ME; BECAUSE HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, SO THAT I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN. THEREFORE MY HEART WAS GLAD AND MY TONGUE EXULTED; MOREOVER MY FLESH ALSO WILL LIVE IN HOPE; BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT FORSAKE MY SOUL TO HADES, NOR GIVE YOUR HOLY ONE OVER TO SEE CORRUPTION. YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE WAYS OF LIFE; YOU WILL MAKE ME FULL OF GLADNESS WITH YOUR PRESENCE.' "Men, brothers, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SET *one* OF THE FRUIT OF HIS BODY ON HIS THRONE, he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER FORSAKEN TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SEE CORRUPTION. This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this which you both see and hear. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says: "THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT

AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I PUT YOUR ENEMIES AS A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.”

Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that **God has made Him both Lord and Christ**—this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men, brothers, what should we do?” And Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.” And with many other words he solemnly bore witness and kept on exhorting them, saying, “Be saved from this crooked generation!”

**Acts 3:12-4:2** But when Peter saw *this*, he replied to the people, “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this, or why do you gaze at us, as if by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has **glorified His Servant Jesus**, whom you delivered and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, but put to death the Author of life, **whom God raised from the dead**, a fact to which we are witnesses. And on the basis of faith in His name, *it is* the name of Jesus which has strengthened this man whom you see and know; and the faith which *is* through Him has given him this perfect health in the presence of you all. “And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers did also. But the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until *the* period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time. Moses said, ‘THE LORD GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BROTHERS; TO HIM YOU SHALL LISTEN to everything He says to you. AND IT WILL BE THAT EVERY SOUL THAT DOES NOT HEED THAT PROPHET SHALL BE UTTERLY DESTROYED FROM AMONG THE PEOPLE.’ And likewise, all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and *his* successors onward, also proclaimed these days. It is you who are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘AND IN YOUR SEED ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH SHALL BE BLESSED.’ For you first, God raised up His Servant and sent Him to bless you by turning every one *of you* from your wicked ways.”

Now as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple *guard* and the Sadducees came up to them, being greatly agitated because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in **Jesus the resurrection** from the dead.

**Acts 4:10-12** let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, **whom God raised from the dead**—by this *name* this man stands here before you in good health. He is the *STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED* by you, *THE BUILDERS*, *but* WHICH BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER *stone*. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

**Acts 4:33** And with great power the apostles were bearing witness to the **resurrection of the Lord Jesus**, and great grace was upon them all.

**Acts 5:30-31** The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you put to death by hanging Him on a tree. This One God **exalted to His right hand** as a Leader and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

Stephen was preaching the resurrection and exultation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Acts 6:13-14** And they put forward false witnesses who said, “This man never ceases speaking words against this holy place and the Law; for we have heard him say that this **Jesus the Nazarene will destroy this place** and alter the customs which Moses handed down to us.”

If you take the time to compare the accusations against Jesus and the accusations against Stephen, you will see that Stephen was most likely preaching the resurrection and exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ just as Stephen heard it preached all the time from the apostles.

**John 2:18-22** The Jews then said to Him, “What sign do You show us as your authority for doing these things?” Jesus answered them, “**Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.**” The Jews then said, “It took forty-six years to build this sanctuary, and will You raise it up in three days?” But **He was speaking about the sanctuary of His body**. So when **He was raised from the dead**, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.

**Matthew 26:59-61** Now the chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus, so that they might put Him to death. And they did not find *any*, even though many false witnesses came forward. But later on two came forward, and said, “This man stated, **I am able to destroy the**



sanctuary of God and to rebuild it in three days.”

**Matthew 27:39-40** And those passing by were blaspheming Him, shaking their heads and saying, “*You who are going to destroy the sanctuary and rebuild it in three days*, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

It’s safe to say that Stephen was preaching the resurrection and exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ. Look at the last statement of Stephen.

**Acts 7:55-56** But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and *Jesus standing at the right hand of God*; and he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the *Son of Man standing at the right hand of God*.”

**Acts 9:17-22** So Ananias departed and entered the house. And he laid his hands on him and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord sent me—*that is Jesus who appeared* to you on the road by which you were coming—so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he rose up and was baptized; and he took food and was strengthened. Now for several days he was with the disciples who were at Damascus, and immediately he *began to proclaim Jesus* in the synagogues, saying, “*He is the Son of God*.” And all those hearing him continued to be astounded, and were saying, “Is this not the one who in Jerusalem destroyed those that called on this name, and *who had come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?*” But Saul kept increasing in strength and confounding the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving that this *One is the Christ*.

**Acts 10:33-44** Now then, we are all here present before God to hear all that you have been ordered by the Lord.” And opening his mouth, Peter said: “I most truly comprehend *now* that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the one who fears Him and does righteousness is welcome to Him. As for the word which He sent to the sons of Israel, proclaiming the good news of peace through Jesus Christ—*He is Lord of all*— you yourselves know the thing which happened throughout all Judea, starting from Galilee, after the baptism which John proclaimed. *You know of Jesus of Nazareth*, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and *how* He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. And we are witnesses of all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They also put Him to death by hanging Him on a tree. *God raised Him up on the third day* and granted that He appear, not to all the people, but to witnesses

who were chosen beforehand by God, *that is*, to us who ate and drank with Him after **He arose from the dead**. And He commanded us to preach to the people, and solemnly to bear witness that this is the **One who has been designated by God as Judge of the living and the dead**. Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.” While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the word.

**Acts 13:16-41** So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said, “Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen: The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and lifted up the people during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He led them out from it. And for a period of about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness. And when He destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land as an inheritance—*all of which took* about 450 years. After these things He gave *them* judges until Samuel the prophet. Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. And after He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, about whom He also said, bearing witness, ‘I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.’ From the seed of this man, according to promise, God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, after John had preached before His coming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was fulfilling his course, he kept saying, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not *He*. But behold, one is coming after me of whom I am not worthy to untie the sandals of His feet.’ “Brothers, sons of Abraham’s family, and those among you who fear God, to us the word of this salvation was sent. For those who live in Jerusalem, and their rulers, recognizing neither Him nor the utterances of the prophets which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled *them* by condemning *Him*. And though they found no ground for death, they asked Pilate that He be executed. And when they had finished all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. **But God raised Him from the dead**; and for many days He appeared to those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, the very ones who are now His witnesses to the people. And we proclaim to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, that God has fulfilled this *promise* to our children in that **He raised up Jesus**, as it is also written in the second Psalm, ‘YOU ARE MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU.’ **But that He raised Him up from the dead**, no longer to return to corruption, He has spoken in this



way: 'I WILL GIVE YOU THE HOLY *and* FAITHFUL *loving kindnesses* OF DAVID.' Therefore He also says in another *Psalms*, 'YOU WILL NOT GIVE YOUR HOLY ONE OVER TO SEE CORRUPTION.' For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid among his fathers and saw corruption; but **He whom God raised** did not see corruption. Therefore let it be known to you, brothers, that through Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and *that* in Him, everyone who believes is justified from all things which you could not be justified from through the Law of Moses. Therefore watch out, so that the thing spoken of in the Prophets may not come upon *you*: 'LOOK, YOU SCOFFERS, AND MARVEL, AND PERISH; FOR I AM ACCOMPLISHING A WORK IN YOUR DAYS, A WORK WHICH YOU WILL NEVER BELIEVE, THOUGH SOMEONE SHOULD RECOUNT IT TO YOU.'"

**Acts 17:18** And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. Some were saying, "What would this idle babbler wish to say?" Others, "He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities,"—because he was proclaiming the good news of **Jesus and the resurrection**.

**Acts 17:22-32** So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all *people* life and breath and all things; and He made from one *man* every nation of mankind to inhabit all the face of the earth, having determined *their* appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His offspring.' Being then the offspring of God, we ought not to suppose that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the craft and thought of man. Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now commanding men that everyone everywhere should repent, **because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He determined, having furnished proof to all by raising Him from the dead.**" Now when they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some *began to* sneer, but others said, "We shall hear you again concerning this."

**Acts 23:6** But knowing that one group were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, Paul *began* crying out in the Sanhedrin, “Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; I am on trial for the **hope and resurrection of the dead!**”

**Acts 24:10-25** And when the governor had nodded for him to speak, Paul answered: “Knowing that for many years you have been a judge to this nation, I cheerfully make my defense, since you are able to ascertain the fact that no more than twelve days ago I went up to Jerusalem to worship. And neither in the temple, nor in the synagogues, nor across the city did they find me carrying on a discussion with anyone or causing a riot. Nor are they able to prove to you of what they are now accusing me. But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I do serve the God of our fathers, believing everything that is in accordance with the Law and that is written in the Prophets; having a hope in God, for which these men are waiting, that there shall certainly be a **resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous**. In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a conscience without fault *both* before God and before men. Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and offerings; in which they found me, having been purified in the temple, without *any* crowd or uproar. But *there were* some Jews from Asia—who ought to have been present before you and to make accusation, if they should have anything against me. Or else let these men themselves tell what wrongdoing they found when I stood before the Sanhedrin, other than for this one statement which I shouted out while standing among them, ‘For the **resurrection** of the dead I am on trial before you today.’” But Felix, having a more accurate knowledge about the Way, put them off, saying, “When Lysias the commander comes down, I will decide your case.” Then he gave orders to the centurion for him to be kept in custody and *yet* have *some* rest, and not to prevent any of his friends from ministering to him. But some days later Felix arrived with Drusilla, his wife who was a Jewess, and summoned Paul and heard him *speak* about faith in Christ Jesus. But as he was discussing **righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come**, Felix became frightened and answered, “Go away for the present, and when I find time I will call for you.”

**Acts 26:22-23** Therefore, having obtained help from God to this day, I stand here bearing witness both to small and great, stating nothing but what the Prophets and Moses said was going to take place; that the Christ was to suffer, *and* that as first of the **resurrection** from the dead, He was going to proclaim light both to the *Jewish* people and to the Gentiles.”

Now that we have got a glimpse of what is the Gospel and what was the Gospel that the apostles preached, and what Jude's readers may have heard straight from the mouths of the apostles, listen to Jude's words and see if they have a little more meaning to you.

**Jude 21** waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

As I've stated before waiting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> participle or secondary command, it expresses the idea of hope.

Waiting here means – to look or to expect and in this context it means to wait eagerly with expectations, or waiting eagerly with anticipation.

**Titus 2:13** looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

**1 Thessalonians 1:9-10** For they themselves report about us what kind of an entrance we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

**Romans 8:23** eagerly waiting for our adoption as sons

**Jude 21** waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

Mercy – means that God withholds what we do deserve or in other words, God does not punish us for our sins even though we have sinned against God and we deserve God's wrath upon us forever.

Jude uses the word mercy here because he is referring to the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, when the Lord Jesus Christ returns for the day of judgement in which He will resurrect the righteous and the unrighteous and He will expose every sin, judge every sin and on that day Jesus will have mercy on every person whom He has made righteous, but the unrighteous will not receive mercy. The Lord Jesus Christ will send the bodies and souls of the unrighteous into hell.

What do the Scriptures say about the day of judgement?

**Matthew 11:20-24** Then He began to denounce the cities in which most of His miracles were done, because they did not repent. "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles had occurred in Tyre and Sidon which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

Nevertheless I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. And Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day. Nevertheless I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than

for you.”

**Matthew 12:36** But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in **the day of judgment**.

**Revelation 20:11-15** Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sits upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. Then I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*. And the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them, and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

**WLC Q. 56. How is Christ to be exalted in his coming again to judge the world?**

Answer: Christ is to be exalted in his coming again to judge the world, in that he, who was unjustly judged and condemned by wicked men, shall come again at the last day in great power, and in the full manifestation of his own glory, and of his Father's, with all his holy angels, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God, to judge the world in righteousness.

**Philippians 2:8-11** Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that EVERY TONGUE WILL CONFESS that Jesus Christ is LORD, to the glory of God the Father.

**What do the Scriptures say about the Lord Jesus Christ judging the world?**

**Matthew 16:27** For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EACH ONE ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS.

**2 Corinthians 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

**2 Timothy 4:1** I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead,

**2 Timothy 4:8** In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day, and not only

to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

**James 4:12** There is *only* one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy.

**1 Peter 4:5** but they will give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

Now let's look at some of the Scriptures that speak about both the day of judgement and the Lord Jesus Christ the judge.

**Matthew 13:36-43** Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." And He answered and said, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, and the field is the world; and *as for* the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the fiery furnace; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SHINE FORTH AS THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

**John 5:25-29** Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. 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. Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

Paul makes a similar statement to Jude about mercy.

**2 Timothy 1:16-18** The Lord give mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains, but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me— **the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day.**

**Jude 21** waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

**Jude ends this verse with** to eternal life.

Jude gives the positive hope for every Christian that it is the Lord Jesus Christ that guaranties for them eternal life.



**Philippians 1:6-11** For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. For it is only right for me to think this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are fellow partakers with me in this grace. For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in full knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and without fault until the day of Christ, having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

**What do the Scriptures say about eternal life?**

**John 17:1-3** Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You, even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

**1 John 5:20** And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

**Revelation 21:1-7** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer *any* sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will WIPE AWAY EVERY TEAR FROM THEIR EYES; and there will no longer be *any* death; there will no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain. The first things passed away." And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true." Then He said to me, "They are done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I WILL BE HIS GOD AND HE WILL BE MY SON.

The author of Hebrews makes a similar statement to Jude 21, but with more details.

**Hebrews 9:24-25** For Christ did not enter holy places made with hands, mere



copies of the true ones, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; nor was it that He would offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy places year by year with blood that is not his own. Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment, so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without *reference to sin*, to those who eagerly await Him.

**Jude 21** waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

Applications for every Christian on how to live while waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Mark 13:32-37** But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father *alone*. “See to it, keep on the alert; for you do not know when the *appointed* time will come. *It is* like a man away on a journey, *who*, leaving his house and giving authority to his slaves—each one his task, also commanded the doorkeeper to stay awake. Therefore, stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house is coming, whether in the evening, at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning— lest he come suddenly and find you sleeping. And what I say to you I say to all, ‘Stay awake!’”

**Luke 21:34-38** “But be on guard, so that your hearts will not be overcome with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap; for it will come upon all those who inhabit the face of all the earth. But keep on the alert at all times, praying earnestly that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

**Matthew 24:45-51** “Therefore stay awake, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will*. “Who then is the faithful and prudent slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions. But if that evil slave says in his heart, ‘My master is not coming for a long time,’ and begins to beat his fellow

slaves and eat and drink with drunkards; the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect *him* and at an hour which he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**Ephesians 4:30-32** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and anger and wrath and shouting and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Instead, be kind to one another, tender-hearted, graciously forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has graciously forgiven you.

**1 John 3:1-3** See how great a love the Father has given to us, that we would be called children of God; and we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not been manifested as yet what we will be. We know that when He is manifested, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

**2 Peter 3:10-15** But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be found *out*. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens burning will be destroyed, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for NEW HEAVENS AND A NEW EARTH, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you are looking for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, and consider the patience of our Lord *as* salvation

**Jude 20-21** But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

**Let's end with Revelation 22**

**Revelation 22:6-21** And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. Let the one who does unrighteousness, still do unrighteousness; and the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still do righteousness; and the one who

is holy, still keep himself holy.” “Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to render to every man according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, THE FIRST AND THE LAST, the beginning and the end.” Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the authority to the tree of life and may enter by the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the sexually immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying. “I, Jesus, sent My angel to bear witness to you of these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come. Let the one who wishes receive the water of life without cost. I bear witness to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book. And if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book. He who bears witness to these things says, “Yes, I am coming quickly.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.