

The Last Days
Part 4
“The Last Day”

John 6:39-44 “This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. 40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

41 The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” 42 And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven?’”

43 Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. 44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Now, we’ve been talking for several weeks now about the the last days—what the Bible says they will look like, the signs that will accompany them, what Jesus Himself said about them, and what the condition and character of people will be prior to Christ’s return.

Now this time we're going to look at, not the last days, but the LAST DAY. Notice that Jesus used this phrase 3 times in our text. What did He mean? What event was He referring to?

Jesus is telling us that the LAST DAYS will lead up to a LAST DAY.

It will be the last day of earthly life as we have known it.

The Last Day is when Christ returns to judge the world, and usher in His millennial kingdom.

When the disciples and Jesus were leaving the temple for the last time in Jesus's life on earth, He predicted the total ruin of the temple, "Not one stone will be left standing upon another."

This prompted the disciples to ask Jesus 3 questions, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" (Matt 24:3).

"When will these things be" referred to the imminent destruction of the Temple Jesus had predicted, which happened about 37 years later in 70 AD.

"What will be the sign of your coming" refers to the various signs that will be all around us just before He comes back.

And what will be the sign of “the end of the age,” refers to the LAST DAY—it’s the end of the age, the end of life on earth as we have known it. The LAST DAY is the end of the age, culminating in the return of Jesus Christ to the earth!

Now, in Matthew 25, Jesus teaches three parables that all have to do with THE LAST DAY. I want to look at the last one—the parable of the sheep and goats—that best highlights the LAST DAY for our purposes today.

FIRST, His THRONE will be established:

31 “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.”

SECOND, He will JUDGE THE NATIONS:

32 “All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. 33 And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.”

THIRD, He will judge the GENUINENESS of your faith:

34 “Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’”

—Genuine faith will be revealed by the quality of your works—how you treated people in Jesus’s name:

37 “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? 38 When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*? 39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You? ’40 And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.’

FOURTH, many will be SHOCKED that they don’t make it:

41 “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:”

I want to stop here and point out that no one more graphically described a real hell than Jesus. The Greek reads, "*into the fire eternal.*" There is no getting around this statement from Jesus. A JUDGMENT DAY is coming!

If you've been made right with God through the shed blood of Jesus, the Lord will say to you on that day, "*Come, those being blessed of the Father of me, inherit the having been prepared for you kingdom from the foundation of the world!*"

But if you haven't come to Christ to have your sins forgiven, you will be sent "*into the fire eternal.*"

Jesus also tells the lost—the GOATS—how their works betrayed their lack of genuine salvation:

42 "for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 43 I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me."

FIFTH, the lost will PROTEST:

44 "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'

SIXTH, Jesus will answer EMPHATICALLY:

45 "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me. '46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

This is what will go down on the LAST DAY!

I close with this final thought:

ON THAT LAST DAY!

What will our God say to us on that great Judgement Day when we all stand before Him?

Here is first what He will NOT say:

- 1. God will not ask you, How much?**
- 2. Nor how many?**
- 3. How big?**
- 4. How great?**
- 5. How beautiful?**
- 6. How magnificent**

No, He will ask what you did with His Son, Jesus Christ!