

Judgment Day Surprises

(Matt 7:21-23)

INTRODUCTION:

1. All people like **SOME** surprises:
 - a. Birthdays (wife, husband, children, etc.)
 - b. Anniversaries
 - c. Showers (wedding, baby)
2. Read text
3. (22)-these people had done many wonderful works, but they were surprised at the judgment.
4. Why? Because they were not the ones who **HEARD** the sayings and **DID** them!
5. The Bible often speaks of the judgment:
 - a. It tells that most will die physically before the judgment. However, there will be some who are alive and will be changed:
 - (Matt. 24:37-39==(giving in marriage) [Noah]
 - (1 Thes. 4:17==(some will remain and be changed)
 - b. It tells us that the 2nd coming will immediately precede the judgment (Matt. 25:31-32).
 - c. It tells us that all will be told to inherit either heaven or hell for eternity (Matt. 25:46) (2 Cor. 5:10)... good or bad...
6. It should be a sobering thought for all of us to think about giving an account for our lives and our stewardship (handling blessings), whether we want to or not, whether that account be good or bad, we are going to stand before God and tell it!
7. Our text indicated that some are going to be in, to say the least, a questionable position come judgment day.
 - a. Their ideas about religion are going to be upset.
 - b. Their plans on how they were going to live their lives are going to be upset.

DISCUSSION: Notice Who Will Be Surprised On That Day!

I. **THOSE WHO REJECT THE BIBLE**

- A. Athiest will be the most surprised.
 1. He will meet the deity that he for so long has said is non-existent. (Ps. 14:1)--the **FOOL** hath said... (Alan Highers)--no atheists in hell!!
 2. He will meet the God described in Psalm 50:22== Those who forget God have no hope!
 3. **PRACTICAL ATHEISTS**--live like there is no God!
All here this morning would say with their lips that there is a God, but do we all live like there is one and that we will give an account before him?????
 4. Like the saying, A man who can't read is no worse off than a man who **won't** read!
- B. Unbeliever, who rejects what the Bible says about Jesus will be surprised when he is judged by this Christ (Acts 17:30-31).
 1. The unbeliever is different from the atheist in that the athiest believes in nothing, while the unbeliever only denies the coming, death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (Jews today).
 2. Since God has given assurance to all men that Christ has come (Acts 2:22), those who do not believe in him (obey him) will be surprised.
- C. Scoffer, who rejects or doesn't care about the Bible teaching on the 2nd coming or hell (2 Peter 3:4,5), will be surprised at the reality of both.
 1. (Jude 18)-mockers, deriders, false teachers
 2. The word "hell" has become a very common word in our society, but those using it for the most part are not using it with respect for its existence, to them it is a joke.
 3. Many do not realize the true threat that hell presents to them. Too many Christians don't realize this either!
 4. (Luke 12:16-21) the rich man's philosophy was **"Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years, take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry.** He didn't realize the threat of hell -he like many today scoffed at it (in and out of the church).

- D. Good Moral Man will be surprised that he is a sinner (non-obey).
1. We hear people say, "He is a good ole boy!" These people (good morals) do not look upon themselves as sinners. They don't obey the gospel, attend the services, etc.
 2. They believe in God, but they do not fear him!
 3. Mt. 19:16-22==rich young ruler -- good but lost

II. **THOSE WHO BELIEVE THAT THEY CAN ALL GET TO HEAVEN THEIR OWN WAY**

- A. All the denominational preachers will be surprised that God meant **exactly what he said**.
1. (Mark 16:15)=Go ye into all the world and preach **the** gospel...
 2. (Gal. 1:8)=anyone preaching another gospel should be accursed.
 3. (Rom. 10:17)--faith comes by hearing the word...(I Pet. 1:25)--word=Gospel...(Eph. 4:5)-ONE faith
 4. If there were more than one gospel, the apostles would not have risked their lives in defending the one gospel!
 5. (Rom. 16:17,18)==we are to avoid those preaching things contrary to **the doctrine**...
- B. Those who believe in "faith only" will be surprised.
1. Back to our text (Mt. 7:21)--he that doeth the will of God!
 2. Those people who were taught and who obeyed the lie that if one believes in his heart that Jesus will come in and save it!
- C. Religiously Sincere Person will be surprised.
1. All the sincerity and zeal in the world will not replace obeying the will of God!
 2. Paul was sincere but lost (Acts 9:6).
 3. Like Paul, we all must be baptized for remission of sins and live faithfully to the Bible and not some preacher and/or creed book.
 4. (Rom. 10:1-4)--Jews had a zeal but not according to knowledge.
- D. Unimmersed will be surprised to learn of the importance of baptism
1. Acts 2:38, "Repent and be baptized..."
 2. Acts 22:16"...be baptized...wash away thy sins"
 3. Mk. 16:16"He that believeth and is baptized..."
 4. Col. 2:12"Buried with him in baptism..."

III. **SOME IN THE CHURCH OF CHRIST ARE GOING TO BE SURPRISED**

- A. Some **ELDERS** are going to be surprised.
1. Those who allow the word of God to be compromised and the flock of God destroyed because of it (Acts 20:28) (Rom. 16:17,18) (Titus 1:9-11)
 2. Those who did not set a good example for the flock to follow (I Tim. 5:17-20).
 3. Those who are self-willed and who care not for the flock of God (Titus 1:7) (I Pet. 5:3).
- B. Some **PREACHERS** are going to be surprised.
1. (Acts 20:26,27)--Paul was free from the blood of all men (Ezek. 3:18,19).
 2. (Gal. 1:6-10)--a preacher who preaches to please the people is not pleasing to God!
 3. (Eph. 4:15)--the truth must be preached, but preached in love!!
 4. (I Tim. 4:16)--a preacher must also obey the doctrine he preaches (I Tim. 4:12).
- C. Some **MEMBERS** are going to be surprised.
1. Those in adulterous marriages.
 - a. (Matt. 19:9)--whosoever--universal!!
 - b. Popular teaching that baptism washes away adult marriages. Wrong!! repentance!!
 - c. Following a divorce -- both parties can not be remarried to different people!!!!
 - d. Elders who allow such also!!!!
 2. Those who believe that just because they are on the roll and **MAYBE** on the pew will be saved
 - a. (James 1:22)--be ye doers of the word!
 - b. (James 2:14-17)--works must accompany faith

3. Those who did not put the church first.
 - a. Attendance -- (Heb. 10:25)
 - b. Giving -- God gets the first!!!
4. Those who murder each other!
 - a. (I John 3:14-17)--hatred == to murder
 - b. (Matt. 15:18-20)--evil actions begin with evil thoughts.
5. Those not reading and studying the WORD.
 - a. (Eph. 6:10-18)--protection from Satan.
 - b. (I Pet. 1:5)--power of God guards us.

CONCLUSION:

1. Those surprised in Matt. 7 were UNpleasantly so!
2. We do not want you to be! OBEY TODAY!!
3. RETURN TODAY and REMAIN FAITHFUL!!

Harold Camping

Many followers said the delay was a further test from God to persevere in their faith.

"It's still May 21 and God's going to bring it," said Family Radio's special projects coordinator Michael Garcia, who spent Saturday morning praying and drinking two last cups of coffee with his wife at home in Alameda. "When you say something and it doesn't happen, your pride is what's hurt. But who needs pride? God said he resists the proud and gives grace to the humble."

Family Radio International's message has been broadcast in 61 languages. He has said that his earlier apocalyptic prediction in 1994 didn't come true because of a mathematical error.

"I'm not embarrassed about it. It was just the fact that it was premature," he told The Associated Press last month. But this time, he said, "there is ... no possibility that it will not happen."