

Zahakiel: It is time to start. Pastor, please offer an opening prayer.

Pastor Chick: Dear Father in heaven. We ask for Your Presence during this hour of worship thanking You for the blessings of being here; a sacred place in space and in time. May all who gather together in Your name just now, be cleansed of all filthiness of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of Yahweh in Yahshua's holy name, Amen.

Zahakiel: Amen.

Adriel7777: Amen

daphna: Amen

Lucan: Amen

Barb: Amen

Kimberly: Amen

Elyna1: Amen

Zahakiel: Happy Sabbath to everyone. Tonight's study is called "Standing in Yahweh's Judgment."

The message of the Three Gospel Angels, which begins with, "Fear Elohim, and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment is come," (Rev 14:7) is called the Everlasting Good News. Every aspect of what these angels say is for the benefit of the saints, and ultimately the entire universe. Tonight we will examine exactly how.

The first verse in the Bible that references Yah's judgment upon mankind directly is this one: "For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am Yahweh." (Exo 12:12)

We know from our reading of the Scriptures that the word "judgment" can have two connotations. The first is the making of a decision... deciding upon a course of action, or determining someone's guilt or innocence. The second is the handing down of a sentence; for example, after making a decision, a court will report a judgment, a result of the decision made beforehand. We may be tempted to think of the first kind of judgment as "good" or "better" than the second, but Yah does both of these, and it is important to understand why.

We have considered that the "judgment" of the First Angel's message is the first type, that the Day of Salvation that comes to every individual is an invitation to stand in Yahweh's decision-making light. To do so indicates an agreement to be evaluated willingly for Heaven so that defects of character and errors in thinking may be discovered and cleansed away. However, the other two angels also speak of judgment, and of the second type, of a decision already made, appointed to the guilty.

The second Gospel Angel says, "Babylon the Great is Fallen." We know that Babylon does not "fall" before she united with the world to become a persecuting power, at which point her "judgment" is finalized. The decision-making, the probation, is closed, and thereafter comes the sentence, the crisis. The Scriptures say of the "woman" figure that represents this fallen Babylon, "the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and live deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning." (Rev 18:9) The judgment upon Babylon is so apparent, so overt, that even the worldly forces through which she fell will take note, and mourn her destruction. But even this is Good News; a blessing for the saints, and ultimately the universe.

The third Gospel Angel says, "If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation." (Rev 14:9, 10)

Here again, even though the word is not used, this is a description of Yahweh's judgment... and it speaks of those who have been marked by the Beast, claimed as his. These never receive the Seal of Yah, and as such, they endure what the Book of Hebrews describes as "a certain fearful looking-for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." (Heb 10:27) But even this is Good News; a blessing for the saints, and ultimately the universe.

The Bible declares, "Yahweh is righteous in all His ways, and holy in all His works." (Psalm 145:17)

This is to be the guiding principle in any examination that may be made of His works, both those in the past, and those prophesied for the future. Whatsoever He does, He reveals the spirit of Agape, which does the very best for as many souls as possible, for the restoration of the universe from the curse of sin. When Babylon falls, it is a blessing, because until the fall of Babylon, men may claim an excuse for confusion regarding the ways of righteousness. Yahshua said, "If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin." (John 15:22)

A Church may have a high calling, true teachings for most intents and purposes, a prophetic line of evidence to demonstrate its validity... and it may also have imbibed pagan doctrines designed to keep its members from sanctification. An individual may believe ever-so-much of the truth, but if he is not taught that conversion means ceasing from sin, and sanctification means growing in grace and power while never returning to dead works, how shall he ever be prepared to stand before the Father without an intercessor when Heaven falls silent in the end of days? (Rev 8:1) Someone may sincerely keep the Sabbath Day free from secular works and financial transactions, but if his keeping of the day does not produce and reinforce the Sabbath rest, the blessed assurance that he is accepted by the Father and Son, this obedience to the letter of the Law does not make him a friend of Yahshua.

Let me speak of this a moment longer before continuing, as I recall a recent Facebook discussion involved the Sabbath Rest. Yahshua is called the Lord of the Sabbath. (Mat 12:8, Mark 2:28, Luke 6:5) That this phrase was repeated in three of the four Gospel records indicates that it is of supreme importance for our understanding of His character. But He was not the Lord of the Sabbath only between sunset on Friday and sunset on Saturday. On Tuesday morning, He was Lord of the Sabbath. Thursday night, He was Lord of the Sabbath. Anyone with spiritual discernment who beheld Him knew He was a Man of peace, and a Man AT peace. To be a friend of Christ is to enter into His peace, to become a partaker of His rest. As He invited, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Mat 11:28)

And how did He give us this rest? It was by His life, and then by His death, which He surrendered for our sakes, saying, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

Adriel7777: Amen

Zahakiel: Those who accept His sacrifice, and enter into His rest, these are the friends of Yahshua, friends of the Sabbath's Master. Yet rarely, if ever, did the Savior speak of obedience to the letter of the Fourth Commandment – to the point that some have been deceived into thinking it was nailed to His Cross – but often did He speak of peace, rest, and healing. These are the elements of the spirit of His Sabbath, which He created and set apart for our sakes.

But now, what if there were a Church teaching obedience to the Law, acceptance of Christ, and preparation for His return... and yet, stopped short of teaching what the Sabbath means, and how it keeps one free from transgression? Such a Church would be very dangerous to the sincere seekers of righteousness, for, like the Pharisees, the dead bones are hidden beneath a pleasant surface. For Agape's sake, for the blessing of the saints, and the cleansing of the universe, such a sepulcher must be broken open, its skeletons exposed. The world must be made to bear witness to its corruption, so that there should be no "cloak" for the sins of those who do not desire righteousness. Babylon, that confused woman, must be allowed freedom, space, to manifest her true character... and when she is given such freedom, she does according to her nature. She has lain with the Beast, joined herself with the kings of the earth, and thus the Second Angel declares, as a blessing, "Babylon is fallen."

In Yah's judgment, in His sentence handed down, we find truth, purity, and blessings for all who are willing to look. When the Third Angel declares judgment upon those who have taken the Mark of the Beast in their foreheads or hands, it is a blessing. As with the fall of Babylon, the character of every human being, living and dead, must be made apparent. The destruction of the wicked is not a pleasant thing, but it is a necessary one in order for this prophecy to come to pass:

"What do ye imagine against Yahweh? He will make an utter end; affliction shall not rise up the second time." (Nahum 1:9)

In the Great Controversy between Law and Chaos, Satan becomes the "type" of every sinner, just as Christ has been made the "Type" and Example of every saint. The Savior is called "the Firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming." (1Cor 15:23) Just as the saints, who follow Christ become "firstfruits" themselves, (Rev 14:4) gradually becoming like Him in character, and sharing in His glory, so those who reject salvation follow Satan, and become a seed of rebellion themselves, (Rom 1:24, 25) becoming like the fallen angel in character, and sharing in his condemnation.

Yahshua said to those who rejected Him from among His former brethren, "Ye are of your father the Devil, and the lusts of your father, ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own, for he is a liar, and the father of it." (John 8:44)

Do not miss the importance of this statement: "the lusts of your father, ye will do." The children of Satan may be sweet, loving, kind, shy, helpful, sympathetic, optimistic, and sincere. Before the coming time of judgment in particular, the agents of the enemy of souls may think themselves wonderful, trustworthy people... and to all human perception, they may be. They may not intend to cause anyone harm, but because they are not Yahweh's, the Holy Spirit cannot prevent them from working against the saints when an opportunity presents itself. It is for this reason that the Word tells us, concerning friends and family, "If I send a pestilence into that land, and pour out my fury upon it in blood, to cut off from it man and beast, though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord Yahweh, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness." (Ezek.14:19, 20)

Of the fearful time at the end of human history it is written, "Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death." (Mark 13:12)

When it comes to salvation, to submitting to the Faith of Yahshua, none can afford to wait for husband, wife, son, daughter or friend... not for agreement, not for acceptance, not for permission. We must follow Yahshua, despite any earthly connection with other human beings, and pray that our example will inspire them to do likewise. The wise virgins have oil sufficient only for their own lamps, and their faith cannot save another, however close the bonds of affection or blood.

The Serpent is subtle; it lays low, and strikes when there is an opportunity. Were a sinner, even the most pleasant to our senses in this time of lingering judgment, allowed to enter Heaven, he would do the lusts of his father, the Devil. Eventually, he would become the very image of the father of rebellion. It is a sobering thought, but when the pestilence

comes, when the time of crisis is upon the earth, then we shall see what people are like without the restraining influence of the Holy Spirit. Then we shall see unfiltered characters revealed – who bears the Seal of Yahweh and who bears the Mark of the Beast.

This is good news; it is a blessing. The Universe must see every case decided, and agree with one voice on the destiny of each soul before sin has the opportunity to rise a second time. Again, were a sinner allowed into Heaven, assuming he could be continually protected from the brightness of Yah's glory, he would never be content. His discontent would seep into his words and actions, darkening the experience of those with whom he had contact. His suffering would be apparent to all, for the saints shall be wise enough to judge the angels, and even though none could be enticed to join him in his misery, their own hearts would naturally grow sad to know that not every soul was at peace. At the very least, this would undo the promise of Yah to wipe away every tear... but in actuality, more than the "very least" would come to pass; this would once again mar the harmony of a peaceful universe. A sinner in Heaven would be an open wound in the fabric of reality, a living contradiction, and a lesson that the universe does not need, having seen ample evidence of discontent's legacy in Lucifer and his followers.

When he is no more, his incurable children in sin cannot be permitted to continue onward either, for they will do as their father did, and seek, by their very nature, to ruin the everlasting joy of those who are loyal to their Creator. The Investigative Judgment, which moves from the dead to the living, and even now draws to a close, is the tool Yah uses to ensure that this troubling scenario I have described never comes to pass. Never shall a sinner enter the gates of the City, (Rev 22:15) for their own sakes, as well as the best good of all the living.

The close of Probation, the Time of Trouble, and the separation of the sheep from the goats, these are terrible ordeals for the universe, and certainly for those who undergo them first-hand, but those who rest in Christ shall endure to the end. They shall see great sorrows, but they will trust in the Word of their Father: "Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day, nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness, nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee." (Psalm 91:5-7)

Those who stand in Yahweh's judgment in the great investigation shall stand in His light also when His judgment in retribution is poured out unto a sick and dying world. Of each of us it is written, "Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked," (Psalm 91:8) for we are they who are blessed even in the times of greatest darkness.

We see, then, that in Yah's judgment, both His investigative judgment and His retributive judgment, there is Agape. There is a blessing to all who call upon His name. The First Angel invites all to stand in the investigation, to cooperate with0

divine agencies in making ready for the appearance of the Bridegroom. The Second Angel reveals false religions for what they are, co-laborers with Satan in the use of force to compel conscience, and the use of deception to lead the sincere away from everlasting life. The Third Angel describes the tool, the Sealing and Marking of every soul, through which the universe will be kept free from sin in eternal ages. All who partake of the great rebel's spirit will ultimately be laid in the dust, recipients of the only kind of peace their bondage allows them to accept.

These things are blessings, all. The saints, we who – because of our submission to the first kind of Judgment – never experience the second, have cause to trust, to rejoice, to Sabbath in our Creator, Who has given all, in Christ our Savior, for our best good, and our mighty victory over all that seeks to harm us.

As the time of trouble approaches, and we see all that is promised coming to pass, we shall be attacked, harassed, and oppressed. There shall be injustice, and hostility, for those from whom the Holy Spirit is withdrawn shall seek to turn their own impending judgment against the saints. But in these times, let the Comforter bring these words to your minds: "Ye shall not need to fight in this battle; set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of Yahweh with you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Fear not, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for Yahweh will be with you." (2Chron 20:17)

Are there any comments or questions on the study tonight?

Adriel7777: Amen

Ruthline: Amen

Zahakiel: If there are none, then I will ask Bro. Luke to offer a closing prayer.

Lucan: Dear heavenly Father. We thank you for your gift of perfect peace, and contentment in all things. As we rejoice in your judgment, may our joy be manifest to all we interact with. We ask that your Spirit be with us through the remainder of the Sabbath hours and beyond. In Yahshua's name we pray, amen.

Zahakiel: Amen.

Pastor Chick: Amen.

Barb: Amen

Adriel7777: Amen

Kimberly: Amen

Elyna1: Amen.

daphna: Amen

PETER: Amen

Ruthline: Amen

Peter_Jr_18: Amen.