

What will your answer be?
What will your answer be? (Song #514)
Matthew 12:36-37
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to help us realize that we must give an answer, all of us.

Intro: 1. Sometimes it seems we think the great day of judgment is far off, or that it isn't really coming (**1 Thess 5:2-3**).
2. We are to be mindful of the answer we must give on that day.

I. Judgment is coming

- A. The bar on high (Christ) and you'll see your record (v.1)
 - 1. Our judgment is now by man (any man) but by Christ Himself (**2 Tim 4:8**).
 - 2. Our record (our actions) will be judged. All of our actions are brought before Him (**Ecc 12:14**).
- B. An answer must be given (v.1)
 - 1. We must give an account (an explanation) for our actions (**1 Pt 4:5**).
 - 2. The Lord is merciful and forgiving (**Heb 8:12**).

II. You must be prepared

- A. If you're unprepared, you'll fall on your knee (v.2)
 - 1. Unpreparedness results in being rejected (**Matt 25:1-13**)
- B. The sentence will be life or death (v.2)
 - 1. The result of judgment results in abiding in one of two places (**Lk 13:23-28**).

III. You must prepare while you have time. (**1 Pt 4:17-18**)

- A. Now is the time to prepare, make your soul spotless (v.3)
 - 1. We are to be prepared while you have time (**Heb 3:12-14**).
- B. Washed in the blood of the crucified one (v.3)
 - 1. You must be purified in order to make into the Kingdom of God (**Ps 51:7**)
 - 2. You must be washed in the blood of Christ to become clean (**Rev 7:13-14**)

Application & Conclusion:

- 1. Our goal in this life is to reach the heavenly life as described in **Rev 7:15-17**.
- 2. What will your answer be?
- 3. Full Invitation