



Truth For These Times



16. THE JUDGMENT

In order to experience the full benefits of the Gospel, we must appreciate the work that Jesus has done for us in the past, and the work that He will do for us in the future, but most of all, we must be aware of the work that He is doing for us NOW! If Christianity is to be for us a saving, satisfying, keeping power, we must know Christ in the present tense.

In our last study we saw the Bible's longest time prophecy, reaching down to the year 1844. In this year the preaching of God's last message to mankind began, the message of the three angels of Revelation 14. Also, Christ began a new phase of His mediatorial work in heaven.

Daniel 8:13,14 Then I heard a holy one speaking; and *another* holy one said to that certain *one* who was speaking, "How long *will* the vision *be*, concerning the daily *sacrifices* and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled under foot?" And he said to me, "For two thousand three hundred days; THEN THE SANCTUARY SHALL BE CLEANSED."

The word "cleansed" reads "justified" in the margin. This indicates judgment. To understand the implications of the cleansing of the sanctuary in heaven, we must first understand the operation and significance of God's sanctuary on earth.

Hebrews 9:22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and WITHOUT SHEDDING OF BLOOD THERE IS NO REMISSION.

The Old Testament sanctuary services centred around the sacrificing of animals to show the need of shedding blood for the forgiveness of sins. If no blood was shed then no forgiveness was obtained. The blood of the animals represented the blood of Christ. In order for the sinner to be "cleansed", the shed blood was vital.

Exodus 25:8,9 AND LET THEM MAKE ME A SANCTUARY, THAT I MAY DWELL AMONG THEM. According to all that I show you, *that is*, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make *it*.

The Sanctuary was built as a central place for sacrifice. God desired to dwell among His people, so the sanctuary was set up, in order that the people could be cleansed of their sins through the shedding of blood, thus enabling God to dwell with them.

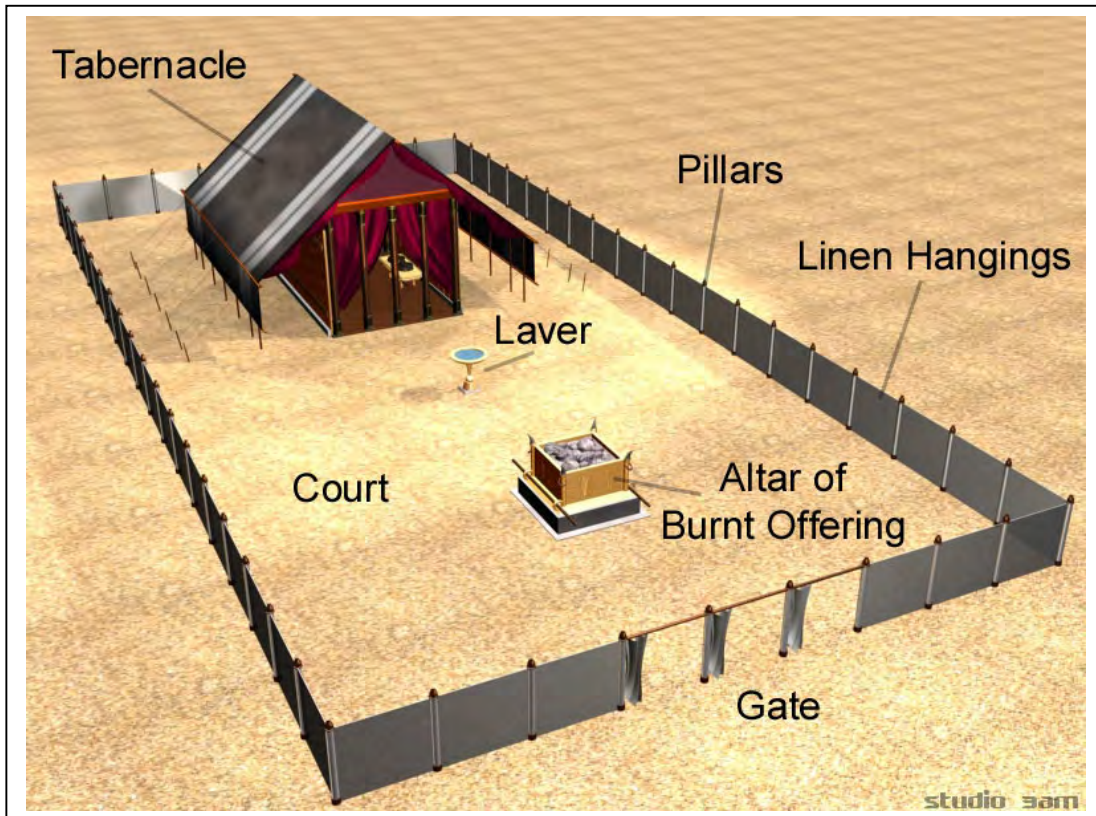


The whole plan of salvation including the judgment was given to Israel in the sanctuary system.

Hebrews 9:2-7 For A TABERNACLE was prepared: the first *part*, in which *was* THE LAMPSTAND, THE TABLE, and THE SHOWBREAD, which is CALLED THE SANCTUARY; and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the HOLIEST OF ALL, which had the GOLDEN CENSER and THE ARK OF THE COVENANT overlaid on all sides with gold, in which *were* the golden

pot that had the manna, Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into THE FIRST PART OF THE TABERNACLE, performing *the services*. But into THE SECOND PART the high priest *went* alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and *for* the people’s sins *committed* in ignorance.

This was the sanctuary and its furniture that God instructed the children of Israel to build. Full details are given in Exodus, chapters 25,26 and 27.



Hebrews 10:4 For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD!”

Animal sacrifices were brought to the sanctuary, but the blood of animals could not atone for sin. The offerer was in reality expressing faith in the coming Redeemer; Jesus was the real Lamb of God. The features of the sanctuary were significant in that they represented Jesus.

The Altar of Burnt Offering	The cross of Calvary.
The Laver	The cleansing work of Christ in the life. (1 John 1:7)
The Candlestick	Christ, the Light of the world. (John 1:9)
The Table of Shewbread	Jesus, the Bread of life. (John 6:48)
The Altar of Incense	The righteousness of Jesus, mingled with the prayers of the people. (Revelation 8:3)
The Ark	Mercy for all transgressors of the law who repented.

Every day the priests went into the first apartment of the sanctuary to minister, but only once a year did the High priest enter into the second apartment, which was called the Most Holy Place. This day was called THE DAY OF ATONEMENT. Atonement means: a covering; to be at one with God; to be reconciled to Him.

Leviticus 16:29,30 *This shall be a statute forever for you: In the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, YOU SHALL AFFLICT YOUR SOULS, and do no work at all, whether a native of your own country or a stranger who dwells among you. For on that day THE PRIEST SHALL MAKE ATONEMENT FOR YOU, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before the LORD.*



Priest entering the Most Holy Place on the Day of Atonement.

Leviticus 23:27 *Also the tenth day of this seventh month shall be the DAY OF ATONEMENT. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.*

The people were commanded to “afflict their souls”, (i.e. to examine themselves thoroughly to see if there was any unconfessed sin, or anything that would separate them from God.) The Day of Atonement was also a day of judgment to the people. It was not merely a service for the individual, (the daily work cared for that), but it was for the final disposition of sin. This was the day for the cleansing of the sanctuary. Through the blood he received forgiveness, thus his guilt was figuratively transferred from himself to the sanctuary. Any unconfessed sin on the Day of Atonement would render the sinner guilty, and he would bear the punishment of his own sin. The sinner had been cleansed daily through the year, but the sanctuary was figuratively bearing the sins of the people. Now, on the Day of Atonement, the sanctuary itself was to be cleansed .

Leviticus 16:7-10 *He shall take the TWO GOATS and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats: one lot for the LORD and the other lot for the scapegoat. And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD’s lot fell, and OFFER IT AS A SIN OFFERING. But the goat on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make atonement upon it, and to let it go as the SCAPEGOAT INTO THE WILDERNESS.*



Priest transferring sins to the Azazel goat in the Day of Atonement ritual.

On the Day of Atonement, two goats were used in the service, one for the Lord and one for Azazel. The Lord’s goat was slain representing Christ making a full atonement for the sins of the people. Hebrews 10:12. The other goat represented Satan bearing responsibility for his part in sin. The priest placed his hands on the head of the scapegoat, confessed the sins of Israel, and then the goat was led into the wilderness. Leviticus 16:21,22. The guilt of sin, in type, was entirely removed from Israel, the sanctuary was cleansed, and the work of atonement for the sin of the people was completed.

Some ask, did not the blood of the first goat, representing Christ's sacrifice, fully atone for the sin of the people? Yes, of course. Then, why was the second goat necessary? The scapegoat represented Satan, the instigator of all sin. He has a definite responsibility for the sins that men commit. The blood of Christ does not atone for Satan's share of the responsibility and guilt. Satan must yet answer for his part in the sin of man. He will ultimately suffer for his own guilt in leading men into sin. He is the one primarily responsible.

Revelation 14:6,7 Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the EVERLASTING GOSPEL to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for THE HOUR OF HIS JUDGMENT HAS COME; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”



The Three Angels of Revelation 14.

The time prophecy of Daniel 8:14 – the sanctuary shall be cleansed, or justified – was fulfilled in 1844. It was at this time that the three angels' messages of this chapter were first preached with power. The message proclaimed was the everlasting gospel – the gospel that saved people before the cross is the same gospel that saves people after the cross. (See Hebrews 4:2). However, here we notice a special message from God sounding forth – the hour of His judgment HAS COME – not coming. Bible writers in the early church spoke of judgment to come – Acts 24:25, but here is a special message that judgment is here. Now the jigsaw is fitting together. The hour of judgment commenced at the fulfilment of the 2,300 years in 1844, which is the “cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary”. The Day of Atonement was a day of judgment. 1844 commenced the judgment in heaven.

Daniel 7:9-10 I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment *was* white as snow, And the hair of His head *was* like pure wool. His throne *was* a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. THE COURT WAS SEATED, AND THE BOOKS WERE OPENED.

The judgment began in 1844 is an “investigative judgment”, similar to judgment in court. The “executive judgment”, when sinners are destroyed takes place at the end of the world. This can be paralleled to a man facing the death sentence for his crime. He has been tried, (investigation), found guilty, (declaration or sentence) and put to death (execution or punishment).



Christ is now in heaven interceding for us while the Judgment takes place.

Hebrews 8:1,2 Now *this is* the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a HIGH PRIEST, who is seated AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE of the Majesty in the heavens, A MINISTER OF THE SANCTUARY and of the true tabernacle WHICH THE LORD ERECTED, and not man.

Here is pictured the heavenly sanctuary with Christ as the High Priest, sitting on the right hand of the throne. It is not the earthly sanctuary, but the heavenly, which the Lord erected.

Hebrews 9:23,24 Therefore *it was* necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For CHRIST has not entered the holy places made with hands, *which are* copies of the true, but into heaven itself, **NOW TO APPEAR IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD FOR US;**

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since **HE ALWAYS LIVES TO MAKE INTERCESSION FOR THEM.**



If we have accepted Christ as our Saviour, we are assured of victory in the Judgment.

What is Christ doing in the heavenly sanctuary? He is our Mediator. Just as the High Priest mediated for the people of Israel, so Christ intercedes for us today. His blood shed on Calvary is our guarantee of our acceptance. He is our Redeemer, but He is also our Mediator. After His ascension, He began His heavenly ministry.

Hebrews 8:5 Who serve the copy and **SHADOW OF THE HEAVENLY THINGS**, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See *that* you **MAKE ALL THINGS ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN** shown you on the mountain.”

The earthly sanctuary was a type or shadow, or pattern of the great heavenly sanctuary. The ministry of priests in the earthly sanctuary was a picture of God’s great ministry in heaven after His ascension.

Hebrews 9:11,12 But Christ came *as* High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood **HE ENTERED THE MOST HOLY PLACE** once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

Christ entered into the Holy Place, or first part of the sanctuary when He went to heaven. (The translators of the NKJV have incorrectly translated the Greek to read Most Holy Place.) This is where the priests on earth ministered daily, but the **MOST HOLY** was entered once a year on the Day of Atonement or Judgment. As there came a Day of Atonement in the earthly sanctuary, so there came a day of judgment in the heavenly sanctuary. The cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary began at the close of the 2,300 day prophecy. Thus in 1844 Christ commenced the last phase of His ministry in heaven. He moved from the Holy Place in the heavenly sanctuary to the Most Holy Place, and commenced His work of investigative judgment.

Revelation 11:18,19 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, **AND THE TIME OF THE DEAD, THAT THEY SHOULD BE JUDGED**, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth. Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and **THE ARK OF HIS COVENANT** was seen **IN HIS TEMPLE**. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.



The judgment of the dead is pictured here, paralleling the time of judgment at the close of the 2,300 day prophecy in 1844. Notice also that the ark of His testament is mentioned. The ark contained God's law in the Old Testament sanctuary. The testament has definite reference to the Ten Commandments.

James 2:10-12 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one *point*, he is guilty of all. For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.

The law referred to here is the Ten Commandments. Verse 12 shows clearly God's standard for judgment – the Ten Commandments.

In summary, the earthly sanctuary was a pattern of the heavenly sanctuary. The first apartment entered daily by the priests on earth parallels the first apartment in heaven, where Christ entered after His ascension. The Most Holy Place on earth was entered on the day of judgment, and in heaven Christ entered the Most Holy Place at the commencement of the investigative judgment in fulfilment of the 2,300 day prophecy. The two goats on earth represented:



The standard of Judgment – God's Law.

1. The Lord's goat, which was sacrificed, representing Christ's sacrifice.
2. The scapegoat or Azazel, representing Satan.

At the close of the investigative judgment in heaven Christ will lay aside His priestly work, and as King, comes forth from the heavenly sanctuary, leaving the confessed sins of His redeemed people. These will be placed on the head of Satan, the great instigator of all evil. As the scapegoat was led away into a desolate place, so Satan will be placed into the bottomless pit. Revelation 20:1-3. He is finally consigned to the lake of fire and brimstone, where he will perish. In this manner the cleansing of the sanctuary is complete, and sin is finished forever.

How will you stand in the judgment?

I John 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, **WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE WITH THE FATHER, JESUS Christ the righteous.**

Revelation 3:5 **He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I WILL CONFESS HIS NAME BEFORE My FATHER and before His angels.**



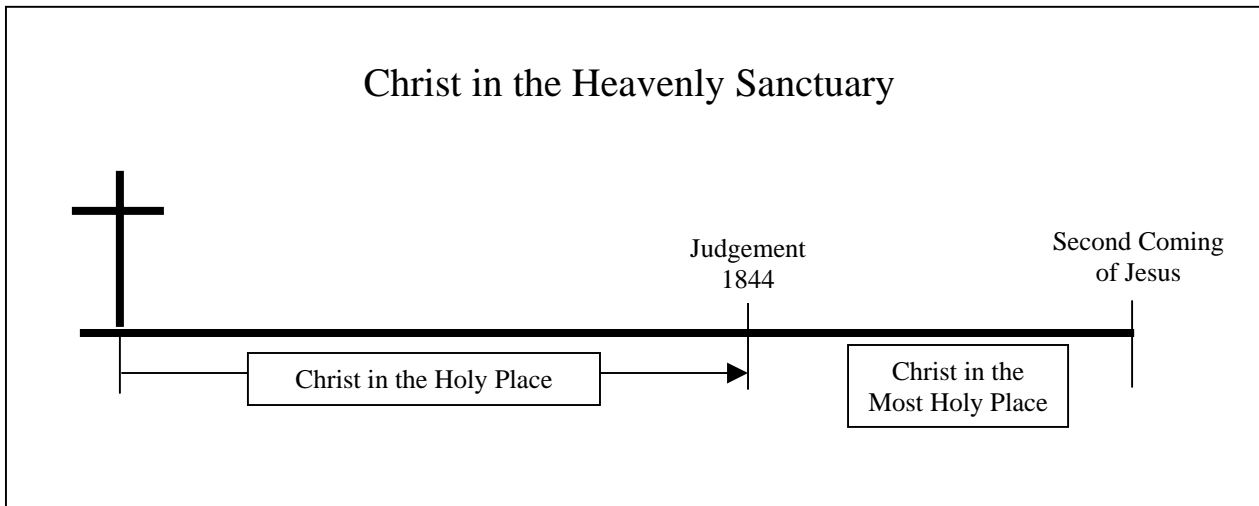
Christ will cover us in the Judgment.

If our lives are hid in our Saviour, we have no need to fear the judgment. We are His special children, and He will uphold us before the Father. Our names are in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 22:11,12 **HE WHO IS UNJUST, LET HIM BE UNJUST STILL; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; HE WHO IS RIGHTEOUS, LET HIM BE RIGHTEOUS STILL; he who is**

holy, let him be holy still. **And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.**

The judgment will close just before Jesus' Second Coming. Then all cases will be sealed for eternity. It will be too late to change then. There will be no second chance. We must make sure of Christ, and follow His truth NOW.



Review Sheet – The Judgement

Assignment: Read the Bible study carefully before answering the following questions.

1. When does the Bible say the cleansing of the sanctuary will take place? Daniel 8:14
“For two thousand three hundred days; _____.”
2. What did God command the children of Israel to build? Exodus 25:8
And let them _____.
3. What did each article of furniture in the sanctuary represent?
 - 1) The altar – The _____.
 - 2) The laver – The _____.
 - 3) The candlestick – _____.
 - 4) The table of shewbread – _____.
 - 5) The altar of incense – The _____, mingled with the _____.
 - 6) The ark – _____.
4. On what day was the earthly sanctuary cleansed once each year? Leviticus 16:29,30;23:27
Shall be the _____.
5. What two goats were used on this special day? Leviticus 16:7-10
 - 1) The _____
 - 2) The _____.
6. The cleansing of the sanctuary on the Day of Atonement, being a day of judgment for Israel, parallels the investigative judgment, or cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary at the close of the 2,300 days, which occurred in 1844. How does Revelation 14:6,7 indicate the arrival of the investigative judgment?
Give glory to him, for _____;
7. What special work does Jesus do in the heavenly sanctuary? Hebrews 8:1,2
We have such a _____, ... a minister of _____ ... which the Lord erected.
8. What does Christ do for His followers in the heavenly sanctuary Hebrews 7:25?
He always _____.
9. Where did Christ begin His work in the heavenly sanctuary after His resurrection? Hebrews 9:11,12
He entered _____.
10. Into what section of the sanctuary did Christ go at the beginning of the judgment in 1844?
Revelation 11:18,19
And the time of the dead _____ ... _____
_____ was seen in his temple.

Note: The ark was in the Most Holy Place in the earthly sanctuary Christ therefore transferred to the Most Holy Place in the heavenly sanctuary in 1844.

11. Have we any need to fear the judgement? 1 John 2:1
If anyone sins, _____.
12. When Jesus finishes His work in the Most Holy Place, will there be a second chance? Revelation 22:11,12
He who is unjust, _____; ... and he who is righteous, _____.

Are you thankful that Jesus intercedes for you in the Judgment? _____.