

### **Matthew 25:31-46 – Study Leader's Questions**

1. *Who is the Son of Man (Matthew 25:31)?*
2. *Who is coming with the Son of Man and why (Matthew 13:41-42, 24:31, 25:31)?*
3. *What will the Son of Man do when He comes (Matthew 25:31-32)?*
4. *What is the purpose of the separation of the peoples (Matthew 13:29-31, Matthew 25:32)?*
5. *Who are the sheep (Matthew 25:34)?*
6. *How are the sheep identified (Matthew 25:34-36)?*
7. *Why are the sheep surprised by what they hear (Matthew 25:37-39)?*
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9. *In what areas does Jesus indicate that we should serve him?*
10. *Who are the goats (Matthew 25:41)?*
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### Matthew 25:31-46 – Answers to Questions

See Dr Ruckman's commentaries *The Book of Matthew* pp 235-236, 535-536, 546-548, 576-583 and *The Book of Revelation* pp 173-174, 259-269, 280-393, 464-468 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 914, 1208, 1260, 1284-1285, 1287-1288, 1401, 1528, 1600, 1635-1636, 1662-1663. Note first **Matthew 25:31**:

#### Matthew 25:31

“*holy*” is omitted by the 1582 JR, DR, 1881 RV, 1978, 1984, 2011 NIVs, NKJV f.n., JB, NJB, NWT.

Nestle's 21<sup>st</sup> Edition omits “*holy*” but Ricker Berry's Edition of Stephanus's 1550 Received Text and the Farstad-Hodges 'Majority' Text retain the word “*holy*.”

Although the Farstad-Hodges Majority Text is a distinct Greek source for comparison with other such sources e.g. Nestle and Ricker Berry, see *King James Version Ditches Blind Guides* by Dr Mrs Gail Riplinger p 50 with respect to the so-called 'Majority' Text *The James White Controversy Part 5* [www.avpublications.com/avnew/content/Critiqued/james5.html](http://www.avpublications.com/avnew/content/Critiqued/james5.html), which shows that it isn't a majority text.

“*Holy*” should be in the verse with respect to “*holy angels*” because it is a Second Advent reference and some angels are *unholy*, indeed “*evil angels*” Psalm 78:49 and evil angels have already come down to earth with the Devil *before* the Second Advent.

“*And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him*” Revelation 12:9.

Revelation 12:9 explains Matthew 25:41.

“*Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels*”

This will happen at the Second Advent. See Matthew 13:41-42 and *Question 2*.

“*The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.*”

“*holy*” is missing from the 1385/1395 Wycliffe Bible. However, it is found in the Bibles of the 16<sup>th</sup> century English Protestant Reformation; Tyndale, Coverdale, Great, Matthew, Bishops', Geneva.

J. A. Moorman in *Early Manuscripts and the Authorized Version* p 73 shows that the majority of extant Greek sources contain the word “*holy*” in Matthew 25:31 along with the Peshitta Syriac version and one Old Latin copy, although most of the extant Old Latin copies omit “*holy*” along with Jerome's Latin Vulgate that omits “*holy*,” noticeable by the omission of the word “*sancto*,” which is Latin for “*holy*.” J. A. Moorman *ibid.* p 28 points out that the Old Latin sources have been subjected to varying amounts of corruption, which accounts for the departures in these witnesses from the AV1611 Text. Dr Moorman's work shows that the extant Old Latin witnesses support the AV1611 in ratio 2:1 with respect to 356 important doctrinal passages of the New Testament.

Dr Moorman shows that the ancient witnesses that omit “*holy*” are the corrupt uncials Aleph, B, D, L. The character of uncials Aleph, B, D, L is summarised in this writer's work “*O Biblios*” – *The Book* pp 13, 67, 116-123, [www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/) uploaded version pp 8-9, 49, 95-99.

In sum, the word “*holy*” in Matthew 25:31 has substantial support from God-given sources and ancient witnesses against the mainly God-denying ones that are in the minority. The modern versions cannot reasonably omit the word “*holy*.”

**Matthew 25:31**

***“the throne of his glory”*** is changed to *“the seat of his majesty”* 1582, JR, DR, *“his throne in heavenly glory”* 1978, 1984 NIV, *“his glorious throne”* 2011 NIV, NWT, *“his throne of glory”* JB, NJB.

The RV, NKJV retain *“the throne of his glory.”*

Nestle’s 21<sup>st</sup> Edition has *“a throne of glory of him,”* Ricker Berry’s Received Text of Stephanus has *“the throne of his glory”* and the Farstad-Hodges ‘Majority’ Text has *“the throne of His glory/His glorious throne.”*

The 1385/1395 Wycliffe Bible has *“the seat of his majesty.”*

The Tyndale, Coverdale, Great, Matthew Bibles have *“the seat of his glory.”*

The Bishops’ and Geneva Bibles have *“the throne of his glory”* in agreement with the AV1611.

Note that the Wycliffe Bibles and the Bibles of the 16<sup>th</sup> century English Protestant Reformation progressively support the AV1611.

The AV1611 is unequivocal with respect to ***“the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ”*** 2 Thessalonians 2:14 with the statement ***“When the Son of man shall come in his glory”*** at the very beginning of Matthew 25:31. The NIVs alteration, which matches the readings of Rome and Watchtower, shifts the focus of the glory away from the Lord Jesus Christ and onto the throne instead. It is not difficult to see who is behind the modern alteration, none other than he who has sought to exalt his own throne, noting that the Lord Jesus Christ is principal of ***“the stars of God.”***

***“For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north”*** Isaiah 14:13.

***“I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star”*** Revelation 22:16.

See also Isaiah 42:8 with respect to the wicked theft of the Lord’s glory from Him in Matthew 25:31 by idolatrous ‘scholarly’ opinion.

***“I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images”*** or Bible-rejecting ‘scholarship.’

The Offended Party will exact retribution.

***“To me belongeth vengeance, and recompence; their foot shall slide in due time: for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste”*** Deuteronomy 32:35.

***“Give glory to the LORD your God, before he cause darkness, and before your feet stumble upon the dark mountains, and, while ye look for light, he turn it into the shadow of death, and make it gross darkness”*** Jeremiah 13:16.

***“If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart”*** Malachi 2:2.

## Matthew 25:31-46 – Answers to Questions Continued

### 1. Who is the Son of Man (Matthew 25:31)?

The Jewish people asked the same question.

***“The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this Son of man?”*** John 12:34.

The Lord Jesus Christ doesn’t answer the question directly.

***“Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them”*** John 12:35.

However, the Lord Jesus Christ had already told the Jews, though they rejected it, that ***“I am the light of the world”*** and that ***“Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am”*** John 8:12, 58. The Jews understood what the Lord said because ***“Then took they up stones to cast at him”*** John 8:59.

The Lord Jesus Christ told the Jews plainly that He is Jehovah God, ***“I AM THAT I AM”*** Exodus 3:14. That is Who ***“the Son of man”*** is and that is why He used the expression ***“the throne of his glory.”***

***“When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory”*** Psalm 102:16.

***“We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers: for we have sinned against thee. Do not abhor us, for thy name’s sake, do not disgrace the throne of thy glory: remember, break not thy covenant with us”*** Jeremiah 14:20-21.

The modern alteration of course breaks the cross reference to Psalm 102:16.

### 2. Who is coming with the Son of Man and why (Matthew 13:41-42, 24:31, 25:31)?

***“The holy angels”*** accompany ***“the Son of man”*** to rid the earth of evil and evildoers, see remarks on Matthew 13:41-42 under **Matthew 25:31** and the word ***“holy.”***

Among them will be glorified saints who ***“are as the angels of God in heaven”*** Matthew 22:30 and help make up ***“the armies which were in heaven”*** Revelation 19:14 at the Second Advent ***“As it were the company of two armies”*** Song of Solomon 6:13. They return to execute judgement as Jude 14-15 describe.

***“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”***

Matthew 24:31 speaks of a gathering of a faithful remnant to the Lord shortly before the Second Advent.

***“And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”***

This gathering *precedes* the Lord’s occupation of ***“the throne of his glory”*** and the faithful remnant that is gathered is strongly Jewish as Psalm 50:3-5, Isaiah 45:4 show. See also Revelation 7:9, 11:11-12.

***“Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people. Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice”*** Psalm 50:3-5.

***“For Jacob my servant’s sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me”*** Isaiah 45:4.

3. *What will the Son of Man do when He comes (Matthew 25:31-32)?*

Matthew 25:32 states ***“And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:”***

The Lord first gathers ***“before him...all nations.”*** Observe that, in contrast to the Devil, the scripture repeatedly recognises ***“nations”*** in that the word ***“nations”*** occurs 19 times in the Book of Revelation; Revelation 2:26, 7:9, 10:11, 11:9, 18, 12:5, 13:7, 14:8, 15:4, 16:19, 17:15, 18:3, 23, 19:15, 20:3, 8, 21:24, 26, 22:2.

The Devil aims to dispose of nations and create his one-world, new world order concentration camp by destroying all bounds between nations.

***“For he saith, By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom; for I am prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man”*** Isaiah 10:13.

***“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!”*** Isaiah 14:12.

***“...and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?”*** Revelation 13:3-4.

See [alamoministries.com/content/english/Antichrist/Popes\\_Secrets.html](http://alamoministries.com/content/english/Antichrist/Popes_Secrets.html) *The Pope’s Secrets* by Tony Alamo with respect to the Devil’s projected one-world rule via Rome.

***“And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication”*** Revelation 17:1-2.

The Lord then *separates* the inhabitants of these nations according as they gave aid and comfort to ***“my brethren”*** Matthew 25:40 or not.

The Devil, by contrast, seeks to *integrate* the inhabitants of these nations by forcing them to take ***“the mark of the beast”*** Revelation 16:2, 19:20. See Revelation 13:16-18.

***“And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.”***

The Jew is immediately in opposition to ***“the mark of the beast.”***

***“Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the LORD”*** Leviticus 19:28.

4. *What is the purpose of the separation of the peoples (Matthew 13:29-31, Matthew 25:32)?*

The purpose of the separation is for the Lord to exercise the judgement that is set out in Matthew 25:34-46. See *Question 3* with respect to the expression “*my brethren*” Matthew 25:40.

Concerning Matthew 13:29-31 the relevant verse is Matthew 13:30. It refers not to the judgement of Matthew 25:34-46 but to God effectively using the Devil to bring the nations of the world into a United Nations Assembly in order to inflict His wrath upon Him. See [www.un.org/en/ga/](http://www.un.org/en/ga/) *General Assembly of the United Nations*. Matthew 13:30 shows that the assembly is accomplished during the Church Age before the Lord comes back for His church according to 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17.

**“Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy”** Zephaniah 3:8.

**“Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn”** Matthew 13:30.

5. *Who are the sheep (Matthew 25:34)?*

The sheep are those from “*all nations*” Matthew 25:32 who minister to “*my brethren*” Matthew 25:40 according to Matthew 25:34-40.

Note that:

- “*the sheep*” Matthew 25:33 are not “*my brethren*” because “*the sheep*” are obviously designated differently from “*my brethren*” Matthew 25:40.
- “*the sheep*” Matthew 25:33 are not “*my brethren*” because “*the sheep*” are part of the judgement Matthew 25:34-40 whereas “*my brethren*” are not.
- “*the sheep*” Matthew 25:33 are not “*Christians*” Acts 11:26 as such because a Christian gets saved according to believing on the Lord Jesus Christ i.e. “**And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house**” Acts 16:31. As indicated, “*the sheep*” are saved by ministering to “*my brethren*” Matthew 25:40 i.e. by *works* whereas Paul writing to Christians states “**But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness**” Romans 4:5.
- Paul refers to Christians as “*brethren*” with respect to being “**faithful brethren in Christ**” Colossians 1:2. See also Romans 7:4, 15:30, 1 Corinthians 1:10, 3:1, 8:12, 2 Corinthians 8:23, Galatians 6:18, Ephesians 6:23, Philippians 4:21, 1 Thessalonians 2:14, 2 Thessalonians 2:1, 3:6, 1 Timothy 4:6, Hebrews 3:1. However “*my brethren*” Matthew 25:40 are not Christians in the Church Age because neither “*the sheep*” nor anybody else gets saved or inherits a kingdom Matthew 25:34 by ministering to Christians in the Church Age, when the ministers are themselves distinct from “*brethren*” in the Pauline sense of the word, as Paul makes clear in Romans 8:9 “**Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**”
- “*my brethren*” therefore can only be literal *Jews* who are the seed of the woman, Israel, “**which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ**” Revelation 12:17 and “**they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus**” Revelation 14:12 i.e. Jewish post-Church Age End Times faith and works believers. See *The Big Flap* by Dr Peter S. Ruckman for more detail.

- Note finally that when the Lord Jesus Christ uses the term **“my brethren”** elsewhere in the Gospels, He is always referring to faithful *Jewish* followers, never Gentile followers from other nations. See Matthew 12:48-49, 28:10, Mark 3:33-34, Luke 8:21-22, John 20:17-18, noting, Judas notwithstanding Mark 3:19, how **“his disciples”** Matthew 12:49, Luke 8:22 or **“the disciples”** John 20:18, 19, 20 are mentioned in the context with **“my brethren.”**

This is why the sheep must be identified as those from **“all nations”** Matthew 25:32 who minister to **“my brethren”** Matthew 25:40 according to Matthew 25:34-40.

6. *How are the sheep identified (Matthew 25:34-36)?*

They are identified by their righteous *works* in ministering to the Lord’s literal *Jewish* brethren, see *Question 5*, and the Lord therefore calls them **“the righteous”** Matthew 25:37 according to 1 John 3:7, which is also clearly a post-Church Age, End Times passage that does not match Pauline doctrine for **“the body of Christ”** 1 Corinthians 12:27. See also 1 Corinthians 1:30 with respect to **“Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption”** and Philippians 3:8-9 with respect to **“not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.”** No works are involved in either passage, in contrast to Matthew 25:34-40.

1 John 3:7 states as follows:

**“Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.”**

7. *Why are the sheep surprised by what they hear (Matthew 25:37-39)?*

They are surprised because they did not see **“my brethren”** as **“the King”** Matthew 25:40. However **“the King”** was **“made like unto his brethren”** Hebrews 2:17 and He is one with **“his brethren”** including post-Church Age End Times *Jewish* brethren as well as Church Age brethren.

**“For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee”** Hebrews 2:10-12.

8. *What did the sheep think they were doing?*

The same as Paul and Barnabas did, when among the Christians of Antioch, Acts 11:26, to **“remember the poor”** Galatians 2:10. A Christian should do **“works of righteousness”** Titus 3:5 but they concern reward, not salvation. See Titus 3:8 and *Question 11*.

**“And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul”** Acts 11:28-30.

9. *In what areas does Jesus indicate that we should serve him?*

Today’s believers can serve the Lord Jesus Christ in the same manner as in Matthew 25:35-39, Acts 11:28-30, as the testimony of Onesiphorus shows and as writing to Bro’s Edwards and Riolo in Attica State Prison illustrates.

**“The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain: But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me. The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well”** 2 Timothy 1:16-18.

10. Who are the goats (Matthew 25:41)?

“**The goats**” Matthew 25:33 are those from “**all nations**” Matthew 25:32 who do *not* minister to “**my brethren**” Matthew 25:40 according to Matthew 25:34-40. See *Questions 5, 6* with respect to “**my brethren**” and “**the sheep**” and their ministry, by contrast.

Note that “**the goats**” Matthew 25:33 cannot be unsaved individuals from the Church Age because nobody today is condemned to “**everlasting fire**” and “**everlasting punishment**” Matthew 25:41, 46 for not ministering to anyone “**hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison**” Matthew 25:44.

They are condemned to “**everlasting fire**” and “**everlasting punishment**” for rejecting Acts 16:31. See *Question 5* and John’s summary that follows.

**“He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God”** John 3:18.

11. How are the goats identified (Matthew 25:42-43)?

They are identified by their unrighteous *neglect of works* in *not* ministering to the Lord’s literal Jewish brethren, see *Questions 6, 10*. John describes them well and includes an exhortation that Onesiphorus fulfilled and is applicable to any saved individual today, *not for salvation but rather as Paul exhorts in Titus 3:7-8 for those already saved* “**That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men**” but *not essential for avoiding “everlasting fire” and “everlasting punishment”* Matthew 25:41, 46.

John’s summary and exhortation are as follows.

**“But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth”** 1 John 3:17-18.

The goats do *not* “**love...in deed and in truth**” and will be condemned to “**everlasting fire**” and “**everlasting punishment**” for *not* doing so. Again, that judgement is *not* binding on an unsaved person today. See *Question 10* and remarks on John 3:18, Acts 16:31.

Note also Ephesians 2:8-10 with respect salvation for the Christian and his works *that are separate from his salvation, which is “the gift of God.”* Ephesians 2:8-10, for the Church Age, does *not* match Matthew 25:34-46, for the post-Church Age End Times *with respect to individual salvation*. The respective plans of salvation are *different*.

**“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”**

Paul’s statement “**Not of works, lest any man should boast**” Ephesians 2:9 emphasises that no man is able to attain “**the righteousness of God...For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God**” Romans 3:22-23. Paul therefore refers explicitly to “**the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe**” Rome 3:22 i.e. *not* by works but with respect to Church Age salvation *by faith*.

However, “**the righteousness of God**” is not an issue in Matthew 25:34-46.

Matthew 25:34-40 and in particular Matthew 25:37 with respect to “**the righteous**” refers specifically to an individual *not* in the Church Age who “**worketh righteousness**” Psalm 15:2 according to Isaiah 58:6-8, which will have post-Church Age End Times prophetic application, in part with respect to Jews helping Jews i.e. “**thine own flesh**” Isaiah 58:7 as Paul says “**my kinsmen according to the flesh**” Romans 9:3. Note that Isaiah 58:6-8 speak of righteousness conferred on an individual as a result of *works* in helping others “**naked, and destitute of daily**

*food*” James 2:15 whereby *“the righteous”* Matthew 25:37, this time in the plural, collectively, enable the destitute to be *“warmed and filled”* because they *“give them...those things which are needful to the body”* James 2:16 as in Matthew 25:34-46.

Isaiah 58:6-8 read as follows.

***“Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?”***  
***Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward.”***

Matthew 25:37 with respect to *“the righteous”* in the *post-Church Age End Times* therefore does not conflict with Ephesians 2:9, which has specific, *Church Age* application to *“the righteousness of God”* Romans 3:22.

12. *Why are the goats surprised by what they hear (Matthew 25:44-45)?*

See *Question 7*. In addition, the goats were like Jerusalem at the First Advent.

***“...thou knewest not the time of thy visitation”*** Luke 19:44

The Christian, though not subject to the judgement of Matthew 25:41-46, should nevertheless pay close attention to Paul’s exhortation in 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11.

***“But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.”***

Finally, as reminder of *“everlasting fire”* and *“everlasting punishment”* Matthew 25:41, 46 see the following:



### Mount Vesuvius in Eruption

A Volcano Gallery [mubi.com/topics/a-volcano-gallery?page=2](http://mubi.com/topics/a-volcano-gallery?page=2)

*“Everlasting fire”* is worse!

*“Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels”* Matthew 25:41