

# Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

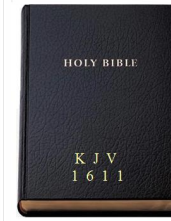
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*Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (2 Tim 2:15)*

*Dr. Joseph Speciale, Instructor*

A ministry of the  
***Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church***

**Lee Swor, Pastor**

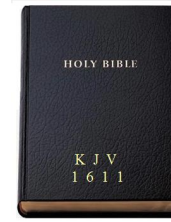


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# Bible Prophecy

*The Judgment Seat Of Christ*

# The Judgment Seat Of Christ



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## Introduction

- JUDGMENT is a foundational doctrine of the word of God (Heb 6:1-2)
- Every man who ever lives will give account of himself to God in judgment at some time (Rom 14:12; Heb 9:27)
- The phrase JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST appears only 2x

### **Rom 14:10**

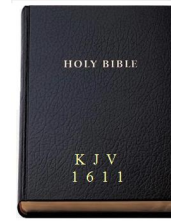
But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before **the judgment seat of Christ.**

### **2 Cor 5:10**

For we must all appear before **the judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

- The judgment seat of Christ is also called the BEMA, which is the English transliteration of the Greek word translated “judgment seat” 10x

# The Judgment Seat Of Christ



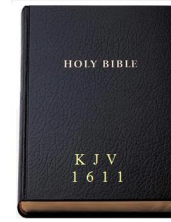
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- The judgment seat of Christ is one of at least 7 judgments in the Bible

## **The 7 Judgments**

- 1) The judgment of sin (Isa 53:6; Matt 27:46; 2 Cor 5:21; Gal 3:13; 1 Pet 2:24)
- 2) The self-judgment of sins (1 Cor 11:31; 1 John 1:9) cf. (Psa 32:5; 38:18; 51:3-4)
- 3) The judgment of Israel (the Jews) (Jer 30:7; Eze 20:37-38; Dan 12:1-2; Matt 25:14-30; Heb 10:30)
- 4) The judgment of the nations (the Gentiles) (Dan 2:44-45; Joel 3:2,12; Matt 25:31-46) cf. (Psa 9:17)
- 5) The judgment of Satan and fallen angels (1 Cor 6:3; 2 Pet 2:4; Jude 6; Rev 19:20; 20:10)
- 6) The Great White Throne judgment (1 Pet 4:18; Rev 11:18; 20:11-15)
- 7) The judgment seat of Christ (Rom 14:10; 1 Cor 3:11-15; 2 Cor 5:10; 1 Pet 4:17)

# The Judgment Seat Of Christ

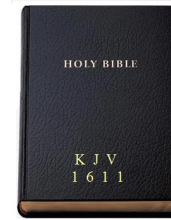


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## Outline Of The Judgment Seat Of Christ

- 1) The PARTICIPANTS- **Who** will be judged at the judgment seat of Christ?
- 2) The PLACE- **Where** will the judgment seat of Christ take place?
- 3) The PLACEMENT- **When** will the judgment seat of Christ take place?
- 4) The PURPOSE- **Why** is there a judgment seat of Christ?
- 5) The PROCESS- **How** will the judgment seat of Christ be conducted?
- 6) The PROPERTIES- **What** will the judgment seat of Christ be like?

# The Judgment Seat Of Christ



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## I. The PARTICIPANTS

### 1. Church Saints

#### Rom 14:10

But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

#### 2 Cor 5:10

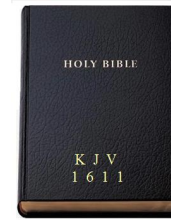
For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

- Both references to the judgment seat of Christ make one fact clear: **all** church saints will **CERTAINLY** be part of the judgment seat of Christ

### 2. Old Testament Saints?

- The answer to the question as to whether or not OT saints are judged at the judgment seat of Christ may be contingent upon whether or not they are resurrected at the Rapture

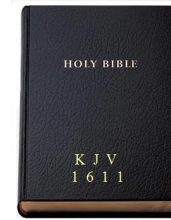
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- There is an order to resurrection that seems to follow the order of death (1 Cor 15:23), with the exception of Jesus Christ
- A number of OT saints, but not all, were resurrected after the resurrection of Jesus (Matt 27:52-53) and later translated to heaven
- If the remaining OT saints are resurrected at the Rapture, then OT saints will POSSIBLY be part of the judgment seat of Christ even though they are not part of the church
- If the remaining OT saints are not resurrected until just before the Second Coming of Christ or immediately thereafter, then the judgment of OT saints will likely be part of the judgment of Israel (Matt 25:14-30) and the judgment of nations (Matt 25:14-46), rather than the judgment seat of Christ
- One thing for certain, the judgment of OT saints must occur before the Millennium since they are part of the first resurrection, and ALL who are part of the first resurrection have glorified bodies and reign with Christ during the Millennium (Rev 20:5-6)

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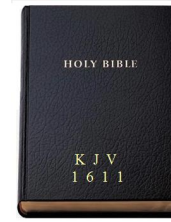
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## 3. Tribulation Saints?

- Believers will be martyred throughout the Tribulation (Rev 6:9; 7:14; 20:4) and it appears they will “rest” (i.e.- in death) until the full company of Tribulation martyrs is fulfilled (Rev 6:11)
- While the two witnesses will certainly be resurrected during the Tribulation (Rev 11:11-12), it is not as clear whether the resurrection of 144,000 (Rev 14:1-4) and the rest of the Tribulation saints (Matt 3:12; Rev 14:14-16) takes place just before the Second Coming of Christ or immediately thereafter
- Regardless, Tribulation saints will **UNLIKELY** be part of the judgment seat of Christ but their judgment will more likely be part of the judgment of Israel (Matt 25:14-30) and the judgment of nations (Matt 25:14-46) after the Second Coming of Christ
- One thing for certain, the judgment of Tribulation saints must occur before the Millennium since they are part of the first resurrection, and **ALL** who are part of the first resurrection have glorified bodies and reign with Christ during the Millennium (Rev 20:5-6)



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## II. The PLACEMENT

### 1. After The Rapture

- Since judgment follows death (and resurrection) (Heb 9:27); the judgment of church saints cannot take place until the church is complete, and the church is complete at the Rapture

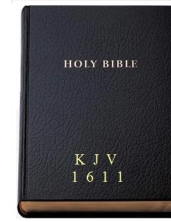
### 2. Before The Second Coming And Millennium

- Church saints are part of the first resurrection, and all those and who are part of the first resurrection have glorified bodies and reign with Christ during the Millennium (Rev 20:5-6)
- Judgment begins at the house of God and the house of God is the church

#### 1 Pet 4:17

For the time *is come* that **judgment must begin at the house of God**: and if *it first begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?

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## 1 Tim 3:15

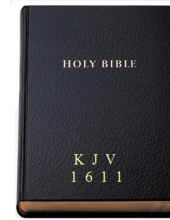
But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

- Since judgment begins with the church, the judgment seat of Christ must be the **FIRST** of all corporate judgments
- This means the judgment seat of Christ must take place **BEFORE** the judgment of Israel, the judgment of the nations, and the Great White Throne judgment

## 3. Before The Marriage And Marriage Supper Of The Lamb

- Both the marriage of the Lamb and the marriage supper of the Lamb appear to take place in heaven toward the end of the Tribulation (Rev 19:7-9) but **BEFORE** the Second Coming (Rev 19:11-21)
- The church is the bride of Christ (2 Cor 11:2; Eph 5:23-25,31-32), the wife who is **READY** for the marriage (Rev 19:7)
- To be ready means the church is glorious, not having spot, or wrinkle (Eph 5:27), and this is the result of the Rapture and the judgment seat of Christ

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## 4. During The Day Of Christ

### 1 Cor 3:13

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for **the day** shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

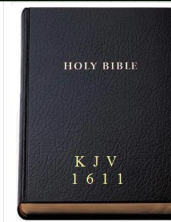
- The day of Christ is approximately the time from the Rapture to the Revelation

### 2 The 2:1-2

1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by **the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ**, and by **our gathering together unto him**,

2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that **the day of Christ** is at hand.

- From the perspective of the earth, it is a time of affliction, temptation, and wrath and includes the Tribulation (2 The 2:2-8)
- From the perspective of heaven, it is a time of rejoicing, reunion, and reward and includes the Rapture (1 Cor 1:8; 2 Cor 1:14; Phl 1:6,10), the judgment seat of Christ (1 Cor 3:13; 5:5), the marriage of the Lamb (Rev 19:7-8), and the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev 19:9)



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