There's a Great Day Coming

Introduction

- 1. The Word of God plainly teaches that there's a great day coming.
 - A. It is the greatest of days--the greatest ever known and will be know to man.
- 2. It is the day appointed by God in which He shall judge all men.

Acts 17:31 ... He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.

- A. It is the day wherein "God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ" (Rom 2:16) according to the gospel.
- B. It is the last day in which all the bodies of men will be raised.

John 6:40 "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

John 6:44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 6:54 Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

- C. It is the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God. (Rom. 2:5)
- 3. It will be a marvelous and wonderful day for those who are ready for it.
 - A. However, it will be an awful and terrible day for those who are not ready.
- 4. This morning, let's examine why it is a great day.

It Will Be the Greatest Demonstration Ever Known (The second coming of Christ).

1. The Lord will come with the trumpet of God and the voice of the archangel. 1 Cor. 15:52; 1 Thess. 4:16

1 Cor 15:52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1Thes 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

A. He shall come back with His mighty angels (Matt 25:31).

II Th 1:7-9 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

- B. He will come in the clouds and every eye shall see Him (Rev 1:7).
- C. Everything on earth will be destroyed.

2 Pet 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

2. He didn't come in 1914 visible only to His own as some teach.

A. When the Lord returns:

1) Everyone will know it; it will be the greatest overwhelming demonstration that has ever been known to man.

On That Day the Great Resurrection Will Occur

1. All the bodies of men will be raised.

John 5:28-29 "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which **all who are in the graves will hear His voice** "and come forth-- those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

A. There will not be two resurrections but only one.

Acts 24:15 "I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.

- 2. The great resurrection will occur when Jesus returns. (1 Cor 15:52)
 - A. When He returns, the saints (the righteous living) will ascend up in the air to meet the Lord.

 1 Thes 4:15-18
- 3. Men today with their theory of the millennium have days beyond the "last day" (John 6:44), another trump after the "last trump" (1 Cor. 15:52), and time beyond "the end" (1 Cor. 15:24).
 - A. We are in the last age now.

Heb 9:26-28 He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so **Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many**. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

- 1) The great day will be the last day of this last age.
- 2) The N.T. does not foretell of another dispensation as the O.T. did.

It Is the Great Day Because the Greatest Crowd Will Assemble

1. All men of all nations will be assembled.

Matt 25:31-33 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. "And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

A. Everyone who has ever lived will appear before the judgment seat of Christ and will give an account of themselves.

2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Rom 14:11-12 For it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and **every tongue shall confess to God**." So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

B. God will judge men according to their works without respect of persons.

1 Pet 1:17 And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;

Prov 1:7 The *fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge*, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

- 2. There will be no mistaken identity on that day.
 - A. A loved one cannot "go to bat" or "come to the rescue" for another.
 - B. Each will receive justice, <u>not mercy</u> on that day. The time to obtain mercy and forgiveness is now, not then.

The Greatest Judge Will Preside

1. Jesus Christ is the One ordained by God to judge all men.

Acts 10:42 "And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead.

John 12:48 "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him-the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

A. This judgment will occur at His second coming.

2 Tim 4:1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

- 2. Many things influence our judges in our courts today. They can be deceived; they are only human and make mistakes.
 - A. This will not be so with the great judge. He'll bring to light the hidden things of sin & will judge every man righteously.

It Will Be a Great Day Because the Greatest Books Will Be Opened

1. The books will be opened and all will be revealed concerning each one of us.

Rev 20:11-12 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

- A. Jesus' words will not pass away (Matt 24:35), therefore, have you obeyed its holy precepts? (John 6:29; Luke 13:3; Rom. 10:9; Acts 22:16)
- B. Are you faithful in attendance so as to be able to build up the body of Christ? (Heb. 10:24-25)

The Greatest Separation Ever Known Will Occur on That Day

- 1. Yes, there is coming a great separation day. The sheep will be placed on the Lord's right hand and the goats on His left.

 Matthew 25:31-46
 - A. There will be a father on the right side and a son on the left.

 There will be a daughter on the right and a mother on the left.
- 2. A song entitled, "Blue eyes crying in the rain" has the phrase "Some day we'll meet up yonder...in a land that knows no parting."
 - A. What a beautiful thought!
 - B. But for loved ones to never be separated, each must fear God and keep his commandments. Eccl. 12:13-14
 - C. We must serve God together now so that we can all alike enjoy that land of bliss then.

It Is the Great Day Because the Greatest Verdict Will Be Handed Down

1. Those on the left hand will receive the verdict of Matthew 25:41; 7:23.

Matt 25:41 Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

Matt 7:23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

- A. This is the place that Jesus solemnly warned against.

 Mark 9:47-48
- B. We need to avoid hell at all cost.

2. Those on the right hand will receive the verdict of Matthew 25:21,34.

Matt 25:21 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.

Matt 25:34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

- A. This place had been promised and prepared for the righteous.
- B. What will that great verdict be for you?
 - 1) Some say, "I don't know; I'll just have to wait and see."
 - 2) You determine what that great verdict will be by the way you live now.
 - a) If you live now as God would have you, that verdict will be eternal life as He has promised.
 - b) If you live in sin, ignoring God's laws, that verdict will be eternal condemnation as He has said. Thus, prepare yourself now.

Conclusion

- 1. Truly, there's a great day coming.
 - A. Are you ready for that day to come?

2 Cor 6:2 For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you." **Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation**.

- B. If you are not ready, make yourself ready now by obeying the gospel.
 - 1) Become a Christian by being baptized into Christ.

Gal 3:26-27 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

2) If you have fallen away, return by repentance and prayer.

Acts 8:22 "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.

Invitation

Place	 Date _	
	 -	
	 _	
	_	
	 _	
	 _	
	_	
	 _	

There's A Great Day Coming.wpd

Richard Thetford, 1997 - Re-accomplished January 2005 (based on a sermon by David J. Riggs, e-mail, Dec 96)