

Who is Able to Stand?

Introduction

Revelation 6:17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?

1. A great day of judgment is coming for all of man.

Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

Hebrews 10:27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

Acts 17:31 because 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.

Necessity of a Standard

1. Various standards:

A. Legal proceedings – court decisions and legal documents.

B. Measurements – length, capacity, weight, money, etc.

2. The Bible standard at the judgment:

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.

Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

All Are Tested

1. This is shown by division that is necessitated by the gospel.

Luke 12:51-53 Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth? I tell you, not at all, but rather division. For from now on five in one house will be divided: three against two, and two against three. Father will be divided against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

2. The test for sinners:

A. The rich young man

Matthew 19:16-22

B. A test for Ruth in giving up her gods.

Ruth 1:16-17 But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, And there will I be buried. The LORD do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me."

C. Must forsake all to be His disciple.

Luke 14:26-27 If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

3. The test for the children of God.

- A. The example of Job – He definitely stood the test!**
- B. Abraham in offering his only son Isaac (proved his faith).
Genesis 22:1-12**
- C. Elijah in his stand for God.
1 Kings 19:1-18**
- D. Christ was tested.
Matthew 4:1-11**
- E. Three tests for our own good.**

Hebrews 12:9-11 Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Why the Day is Great

1. **Some people say that “great” means longer – possible 1,000 yrs.**
2. **July 4th holiday is great to a lot of people – not longer – but great events with family associated with it.**
3. **Some events that make the judgment day great:**
 - A. **The end of time.**
2 Peter 3:10-13
 - B. **The great resurrection will occur.**

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.

- C. **A great change will take place.**
 - 1) **Each will go to their eternal destiny!**

Who Will Stand?

1. Even though all will stand at the judgment, not all will have stood the test.

A. Not the unbelievers.

Hebrews 11:6

Luke 12:46 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two and appoint him **his portion with the unbelievers.**

B. Not the impenitent.

Luke 13:3

Acts 17:30-31 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now **commands all men everywhere to repent**, because 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.

C. Not the unbaptized.

Mark 16:16

Acts 2:38

D. Not the backsliders or apostates.

Hebrews 6:4-6

2 Peter 2:20-21 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.

E. Not the disobedient.**Matthew 7:21**

Hebrews 5:8-9 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation **to all who obey Him,**

2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 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,

F. There is only one class of people who will be able to stand before Jesus Christ our Lord – **the faithful.****Revelation 2:10**

Matthew 24:12-13 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. **But he who endures to the end shall be saved.**

Revelation 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: **'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'** " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Results of the Test

1. Eternal condemnation to those who fail the test of life.

Matthew 25:46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Revelation 14:9-11 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Revelation 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

2. There will be endless bliss to those who pass the test of life.

Matthew 5:12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

2 Corinthians 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

Romans 8:16-17 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Conclusion

1. **Men and women prepare for examinations here, but why not for the eternal?**
2. **It is important that we build our character in such a way that we are a reflection of Jesus.**
3. **When we stand before Jesus on the judgment day – will we have passed the test?**
4. **Will we honestly be able to say that we have lived FOR HIM now so that we truly can stand before Him with confidence at the great judgment day?**
 - 1) **The apostle Paul lived his life fully and completely for Christ and KNEW that he was ready to hear Jesus say “enter in.”**

2 Timothy 4:6-8 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.**

