

VISIONS OF JUDGMENT

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INTRODUCTION

(Matt. 25:31-46)

A. **TEXT:** Acts 24:25.

B. **SETTING:**

1. Paul's arrest and the trip to Caesarea.
2. His Roman citizenship had saved him.
3. Now has been brought before the governor, Felix.

C. **WHO WAS FELIX?**

1. Was born a slave in the home of Agrippina, mother of Claudius.
2. Had risen from position of slave to that of ruler.
3. Was steeped in the blood of private murder and public massacre.
4. Had been ruling there for 8 years.
5. Drusilla, was the daughter of Herod Agrippa, who had murdered the apostle James. (Acts 12).
 - a. Had been given in marriage to Aziz, king of Emesa.
 - b. Had abandoned him and was living with Felix.

D. **HIS VISION OF JUDGMENT.**

1. Considered his life.
 2. "And was Terrified."
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JUDGMENT WILL BE....

A. **SEPARATION** (Matt. 25:32)

1. Sheep on right hand..... RIGHTEOUS
2. Goats on left WICKED

B. **REWARD:**

C. **ETERNAL** (Matt. 25:46).

1. Eternal life.
 2. Eternal death
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JUDGMENT DETERMINED BY

A. **DEEDS DONE IN THE BODY;** How we lived (II Cor. 5;10).

1. Whether it be good..
2. Or whether it be bad
3. How we have lived.

B. **OBEDIENCE \ DISOBEDIENCE** (II Thess. 2).

1. Vengeance to them that obey not the gospel.
2. Know not God.
3. "Believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness"
4. "Eternal destruction from the face of the Lord."

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C. WISE AND FOOLISH BUILDERS (Matt. 7)

1. "Do these words of mine....
2. "Doeth them not..

D. PREPARATION:

1. Five wise... were ready when the bridegroom came.
 2. Five foolish...had not made proper preparation!
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MANY DESIRE TO...

A. REASONED WITH FELIX OF...

1. Righteousness.
 - a. Rightness, right conduct, purity of life.
 - b. Right relationship with God.
2. SELF CONTROL...TEMPERANCE.
 - a. To hold ones self within due limits.
 - b. Control or master the passions and desires of the body.

B. Felix was Terrified, yet as many do.....

1. He attempted to put off his responsibility....
 2. WAIT FOR A MORE CONVENIENT SEASON.
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THE CONVENIENT SEASON

A. Opportune, or seasonable time, right time. ..Conducive to ease or comfort.

B. IS SELFISH. My convenience above your convenience. (Mat. 13:44;)

C. DOES NOT RESPECT AUTHORITY.

1. After two years, Felix was called to Rome to give account.
2. Imagine Felix telling Nero, "Wait until I am good and ready".
3. Tell IRS, "When it's convenient, I'll send you something."
4. As much sense as to put off the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

D. DOES NOT MEET RESPONSIBILITY.

1. Maturity demands that we meet the responsibilities of life.
 - a. Stewards (I Cor. 4:1,2; I Pet. 4:10; Titus 1:7)
 - b. To your family, citizen, job, etc. Eph. 6:4.
 - c. Responsibility of rightness (Acts 17:30).
 - d. Responsibility to God (Acts 17:30; 2 Pet. 3:9)
 2. Responsibility for our soul (I Pet. 1:22,23).
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DO YOU JUDGE FELIX?

- A. Have you reasoned about righteousness.
 - 1. Are you right with God?
 - 2. "Is Thy Heart Right With God"
 - B. Have you taken charge of your life by a surrender to God?
 - 1. Repentance is that change of mind and purpose that results in change of life.
 - 2. How do you view the coming of the Lord in Judgment? (Mk. 9:44ff; Rev. 11:14; Rom. 2:16; Eccl. 12:12,13).
 - C. ARE YOU PUTTING THE LORD OFF FOR A CONVENIENT SEASON?
 - 1. About your study? (2 Tim. 2:15).
 - 2. About your work for the Lord (John 9:4).
 - 3. Faithfulness (Heb. 10:22-26).
 - 4. Obedience to the Gospel (Heb. 5:8,9).
 - D. FOR SO MANY, THE "CONVENIENT SEASON" NEVER COMES.
 - 1. It is folly and dangerous to wait for a more convenient time.
 - 2. We recognize that in the care for the physical body.
 - 3. Obedience must be out of **CONVICTION** rather than convenience.
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CONCLUSION

- A. TWO VIEWS OF JUDGMENT:
 - 1. "I know whom I have believed...." (II Timothy 1:12).
 - 2. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a living God" (Heb. 10:23-30)

 - B. WHAT IS YOUR VISION OF THE JUDGMENT??
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