



EMMANUEL

SHEEP? ... OR GOAT?



1. This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven.

2. When the Son of Man comes, He shall sit upon the throne of His glory. Before Him shall be gathered all nations, and He shall separate them, as sheep from goats.



3. The King shall say unto those on His right hand, "Come, you blessed of My Father."

4. Then He shall say to those on His left hand, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into everlasting fire."

In Matthew chapter 25, Jesus tells about the great Judgement Day of God and that God will place the judgement of the nations into His hands. This is what He says:

“When the Son of Man shall come in His glory ... then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory: and before Him shall be gathered all the nations: and He shall separate them one from another ... and He shall set the sheep on His right hand but the goats on the left” (Matthew 25:31-33).

Reading further, we learn that the sheep are the righteous who will go into everlasting blessedness, while the goats are the unrighteous who will go into everlasting punishment prepared for the devil and his followers. Let us learn three important lessons from these words of Christ.

First, every human being will one day stand before Christ in the Judgement of the Last Day. No one can escape or hide. All nations and peoples will stand before God. You and I will be there. The Bible says, “We shall ALL stand before the judgement seat of Christ ... every one of us shall give account of himself before God” (Romans 14:10-12).

Second, when we stand before His throne, Jesus will divide the multitudes into two flocks: on His right will be the sheep (His friends) and on His left the goats (His enemies). On which side will you stand? Are you His friend or His enemy – sheep or goat? In the Old Testament, when the nation of Israel was turning away from God to serve idols, Moses cried out, “Who is on the Lord’s side? Let him come unto me” (Exodus 32:26). NOW is the time to come over to the Lord’s side. It will be too late on Judgement Day to change sides!

Third, some think that it will be possible to say to Jesus, “Lord! I was not very wicked. I was only a little sinful.” Is it possible for an animal to be one half sheep and one half goat? No! Nor is it possible for someone to be half among the Lord’s sheep and half among the devil’s goats. Jesus said, “No man can serve two masters” (Matthew 6:24). The Bible says, “He that committeth sin is of the devil” (1 John 3:8). There are no “little” sinners or “big” sinners before God. His Word says, “ALL unrighteousness is SIN” (1 John 5:17). The Bible also says, “ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

If you are not among the Lord’s sheep, then you must be in the company of the devil’s goats. NOW is the time to make up your mind. The Bible says, “REPENT and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15). To REPENT is to be sorry for your sinfulness. If we repent and turn in faith to Christ, then we are promised that our sins will be blotted out (Acts 3:19). “God ... commands all men every where to REPENT: because He has appointed a DAY, in which He will judge the world” (Acts 17:30-31).

Confess your sins to God and turn away from your sinful life. Believe in your heart that Christ has the power to save you from sin. Then the Holy Spirit will come into your life, and you will hate sin and love God.

You can flee from the devil, and Christ will invite you into His flock! (Matthew 11:28-29). He will create in you a clean heart and a right spirit. (Read Psalm 51.) You will then be a sheep of the Lord’s flock, and you can face the Day of Judgement without fear.



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