

<Introduction>

“The Lord came for judgment” by Jeremiah

**John 9:39 Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”**

<The Pharisees mistook Jesus>

Today, our message is titled, “The Lord came for judgment”. We are going to look at how Jesus came to the world in the way everyone could not understand, therefore many hypocrites were judged. The scripture above is about a blind man getting healed miraculously and his sight restored. Here, the Lord said that He came to the world to bring judgment and it was **“so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind”**. **“The blind will see”** means the blind man will be able to see not only physically, but he will be able to see his savior Jesus Christ. It is described in the scripture reference below.

**John 9:28 Then they hurled insults at him and said, “You are this fellow’s disciple! We are disciples of Moses!**

**9:29 We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don’t even know where he comes from.”**

**9:30 The man answered, “Now that is remarkable! You don’t know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes.**

**9:31 We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will.**

**9:32 Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind.**

**9:33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”**

**9:34 To this they replied, “You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!” And they threw him out.**

The man who was born blind was able to see Jesus whom the Pharisees couldn’t see, and realized that He has indeed come from God. His spiritual eyes as well as the physical ones were opened.

The Lord also said, **“those who see will become blind”**. The Pharisees were supposed to be able to see and understand the truth of the Bible better than others, but they completely failed to recognize Jesus, and were convinced that He was a sinner. They described Jesus as we can see in the scripture reference below.

**John 9:24 A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. “Give glory to God by telling the truth,” they said. “We know this man is a sinner.”**

They really believed wholeheartedly that Jesus was a sinner. Why was there such clear differences between two groups about Jesus? How come a blind could see Jesus properly and the Pharisees misunderstood who He was? I think the scripture below explains this.

**Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**

**Hebrews 12:14 Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.**

These words explains that people with pure heart will see God. Because a blind man had pure heart, he saw Christ. On the other hand, the Pharisees were specialists in the Bible, but it was only outwardly, we can understand that their heart were not pure. Because his heart was not pure, he failed to see Christ who was God in the form of human.

<What is judgment?>

Now, we have looked at the scripture where the Lord said **“For judgment I have come into this world”**. So, let’s think about what “judgment” means.

As far as this scripture about a blind man is concerned, the Lord certainly came to the world to judge the people. We can see that how people lived and the thoughts of their heart was revealed by Him.

Frankly speaking, the way the Lord came to the world may have looked formal, but it actually worked as a difficult and tricky question which could be mistaken by those people who denied its nature.

The Pharisees, priests, and rabbis who appeared to be very pure outside but quite dirty inside all got tricked by this tricky question.

They had knowledge about Christ's coming from the Bible. They knew where the Messiah was going to be born. It was Bethlehem, but because of that, they didn't accept Jesus who was from Nazareth. They thought they fully understood the Bible and knew what they were talking about. However, it was tricky that Jesus was from Nazareth. He was actually born in Bethlehem when a census was carried out.

God gave them a tricky question by sending Jesus of Nazareth to reveal who were really hypocrites. It indeed revealed many hypocrites, and they were judged accordingly.

But, the righteous people didn't get tricked by this, and were able to see God and Jesus the Son of God. Nathanael is a good example. He came to realize that Jesus was the real savior as described below.

**John 1:45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."**

**1:46 "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.**

**"Come and see," said Philip.**

**1:47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit."**

**1:48 "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked.**

**Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."**

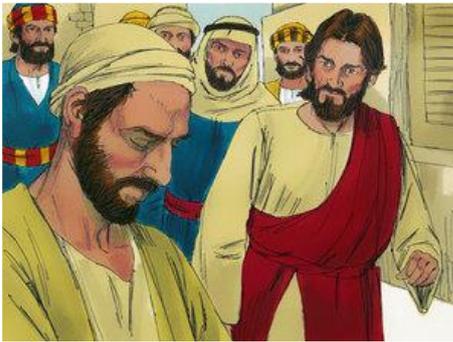
**1:49 Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel."**

As you can see here, Nathanael actually didn't care about Jesus who was from Nazareth. But, as he talked to Jesus, he found that this man was really the Son of God. It was because of his pure heart that made him see Jesus' divinity.

<Jesus first came to judge people>

So, when Jesus first came to the earth, it was to bring judgment, and he came as a tricky question to reveal the true nature of many people. Therefore, we need to understand this was the purpose of his first coming. It is obvious that He came to judge

the hypocritical Christians who only looked impressive outside. What we can understand from the Gospel is that Jesus didn't come in the way that everyone could see this was the Messiah who was prophesized in the Bible without difficulty. Instead, God dared to send Him in the way many specialists would misunderstand. He did it deliberately.



A blind man saw who Jesus was

And there is clearly God's will and intension. It is because the first coming of Jesus Christ had purpose of judging hypocrites and people who only appeared to be committed Christians.

If you think about how the Japanese police dress up themselves, they wear a navy blue uniform, police hat, button around the waist, and carry a gun while patrolling on a bicycle. Because of this, everyone on the street can see they are the police.

Now, they are not necessarily walking dressed up like that obviously. They could be on the train dressed like normal people. But, when someone tries pick pocketing, they will catch the person and arrest. In this case, a police officer disguises in the way people don't recognize who they are. It is all for apprehending criminals.

I don't know if it is appropriate to use this example, but when Jesus came to the world, He was just like this police officer in plain clothes who are hard to detect. He looked in the way not everyone could recognize who he was because His purpose was to bring the judgment to God's people who where hypocritical.

<The Lord's second coming is also for bringing judgment >

By the way, we are not living in the time of Jesus' first coming, but near his second coming. So, the question is "what about second coming?" How does the Lord come when He returns to the world?

I think it is fair to think that "the Lord comes back to the world to bring the judgment again". I also think that He will not come in the expected way, but rather as a surprise once again. What do you think?

<The Seal will be used for judgment in the End Times >

The Bible is basically easy to understand. But, when it comes to the End Times, it is difficult and sealed. Have you ever thought why? Everything God does has the reason, so there is the reason why all the scriptures about End Times are hard to understand and sealed by seven seals.

It is to separate righteous people from evil ones, and bring the judgment on them as written in Daniel.

**Daniel 12:9 He replied, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are rolled up and sealed until the time of the end.**

**12:10 Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.**

Here, it is written that the words will be rolled up, and its reason is because **"the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand"**.

It could be explained like below, I suppose.

Say for example, there is a house secured with seven locks. One or two locks may be quite normal, but the seventh seems to be unusual. Now, don't we feel the strong intention of the owner of the house? It implies to us that "I will protect my house from strangers, thieves, or bad people by making sure they are unable to enter the house".

When the Lord came to the world for the first time, it was for judgment on hypocrites. Those who weren't walking the righteous life were tricked by "Jesus the Nazareth", and brought to judgment.

I think the same thing will happen when Jesus returns. I suppose it will also be done through the sealed prophesy in End Times. This means righteous people with God's wisdom will have correct understanding of the direction in End Times, but on the other hand, the seals will not be broken for those hypocritical believers, as God sees them as bad people, which will result in destruction.

<Seals will be kept unbroken to hypocritical believers>

From such point of view, it seems that this has been fulfilled right now. Do you think that many people purify themselves and consider deeply enough to break the seven seals in this era?

I can hardly believe so. I would rather think none of those seals has been broken to God's people yet.

The doctrines of End Times which have become common theory in current churches (e.g. Pre-tribulation rapture, or Multi-raptures) seem to be nothing but silly nonsense. It is same as the other doctrines such as "building the third temple in Jerusalem", or "EU is the country of the beast".

Why can the eyes not be opened, or seals broken? The answer seems to be in the scripture which I mentioned in the very beginning.

**John 9:39 Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."**

Religious expert Pharisees were confident that they were being able to see properly, but they were just blind in God's eye. That is why they failed to see and recognize Jesus who had divine nature. They even treated Him as a criminal.

Jesus of Nazareth came to judge them. In the same way, what is the reason that the people who are supposed to be experts of the Bible and the church also fail to see the true doctrine of End Times, and believe some lies right now? Frankly speaking, because they are blind in God's eye, and the scripture about End Times is going to be used to judge them. Therefore, make sure that you fear God.



Breaking the seven seals

<What I learnt from a robe from Babylonia>

I would like to talk about things we learnt recently at a Saturday meeting in October. Because I felt they were important for Christians living in End Times, I hope you would be interested in knowing.

**Joshua 7:21** When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath.

When you take a look at the underlined part, do you understand what a beautiful robe from Babylonia means? Personally, I had no idea until I heard the message of pastor Jeremiah. By the way, this part is about Akan and a crime he committed. Verse 21 is what Akan said, and because he took a beautiful robe from Babylonia, Israel ended up being defeated by the enemy. The scripture below describes that.

**Joshua 7:11** Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions.

**7:12** That is why the Israelites cannot stand against their enemies; they turn their backs and run because they have been made liable to destruction. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction.

This is what the Lord said. “liable to destruction” means “a beautiful robe from Babylonia” in verse 21. There is a strong relationship between “Babylon” and “robe”. At Remnant church, we understand that “Babylon” is “The United States”. “Robe” has the meaning of “the church system”, “teaching”, or “doctrine”. Therefore, “a beautiful robe from Babylonia” is about “great doctrines which comes from U.S”.

For example, there is “Pre-tribulation Rapture”. This theory insists that Christians will avoid tribulation by going to heaven beforehand, but it just sounds too good for Christians.

I used to believe this. But from God’s point of view, it is **“liable to destruction”**. Because there is nowhere in the Bible written about this. There are “stolen” and “lied” in verse 11, and this means that “Pre-tribulation Rapture” is the doctrine which misinterprets the words of Jesus, **“For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again”** and therefore it is almost like stealing and lying about it.

And when **“liable to destruction”** is in **“tent (church)”**, as is written in verse 12 **“Israelites cannot stand against their enemies; they turn their backs and run”**, they become unable to stand before the enemy. And it also goes on to say **“because they have been made liable to destruction. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction”**, which means if we have it, we will become **“liable to destruction”** in God’s eye. He will also not be with us either. Plus, as it says **“unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction”**, you are unable to defeat Satan unless you destroy what is **“liable to destruction”**.

What do you think? Can you see how God is angry at doctrines originated from Babylon and U.S? “Pre-tribulation Rapture” theory is just a small example, and there are so many other false teachings which comes from U.S. I suppose we need to get rid of those one by one as you find it. This is because the Bible clearly mentions **“Israelites cannot stand against their enemies”** if there is something **“liable to destruction”**. We should rather remove it swiftly. Although it says **“unless you destroy...”** it also means if we destroy everything **“liable to destruction”**, God will be with us and bring us victory. So, if you think there is something **“liable to destruction”** inside, I encourage you to destroy them.

By the way, one of the teachings in the Bible is that the winner inherits the kingdom of heaven and obtains eternal life, but if you keep “losing the battle”, you may lose the opportunity to get these, so we all should be careful about it.

May glory and honor be given to God who always teaches us the important lessons.

Amen.