

• **THE Gospel Part 13 – The Accountability of the Just and Unjust – Study Guide**

This study guide addresses the **accountability of the redeemed**, specifically focusing on the scriptural categories of the **"just" and the "unjust"**. It challenges the common theological assumption that judgment is reserved only for those outside the church, asserting that Jesus's warnings about being shut out of the gate apply to **redeemed people** who fail to follow the required route of obedience. The text distinguishes between **Redemption** (God's sovereign act of purchase) and **Salvation** (a future inheritance determined by walking in faith). Using the **rebellion of Korah** as a historical warning, the source illustrates that even well-known, redeemed leaders can face destruction for presumption. Finally, it defines **"belonging to Christ"** as an active, ongoing process of **crucifying the flesh** rather than a one-time emotional event.

Definitions of Key Words

- **Redemption:** The sovereign **act of God** whereby He purchases a people for Himself through the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ for His own purpose.
- **Salvation:** A **future inheritance event** occurring at the judgment seat of Christ, where the redeemed are delivered into the earthly kingdom based on a life of walking by faith.
- **Just:** A category of the redeemed who have **done "good"** in the body and are raised to the resurrection of life.
- **Unjust:** A category of the redeemed who have **done "evil"** in the body and are raised to a resurrection of judgment and shame.
- **Accountability:** The principle that there are **real consequences** for the actions of the redeemed, contrary to the idea that initial belief covers all ongoing actions.
- **Bema (Judgment Seat):** The place where the redeemed must appear to receive what is due for their deeds, whether **good or evil**.
- **Figurative Language:** Mental pictures, such as a "shut gate," used by Jesus to describe **spiritual events** that occur in an indivisible moment of time.

Expansion of Key Points

1. The Targeted Concern for the Redeemed

The sources emphasize that God's primary concern is for His **redeemed sheep**, rather than those outside the faith. According to **Ezekiel 34:7–10**, God holds the **shepherds (leadership)** accountable for failing to search for the lost sheep and for feeding themselves rather than providing the message of the Messiah's coming kingdom. These leaders are themselves redeemed, yet they are "nailed" by God for failing to feed the flock the specific **Gospel of the Kingdom**.

2. Distinguishing Redemption from Salvation

A fundamental requirement for understanding the Bible is distinguishing between redemption and salvation. **Redemption** is the act of being purchased by God; as **Matthew 11:27** notes, it occurs as Christ reveals the Father to an individual. In contrast, **salvation** is a future inheritance that must be gained by **walking in faith** towards that inheritance. This distinction is seen in Jesus's instruction to the rich young man to follow Him in the **present tense** to enter the kingdom, a requirement the man rejected in favour of his possessions.

3. The Accountability of the "Just" and "Unjust"

The future outcome is not bright for everyone, including those within the church. The sources argue that when Jesus depicts people outside a shut gate shouting "**Lord, Lord,**" He is referring to **redeemed people** who performed miracles and prophecies in His name but did not come the "route" He commanded. These are not "pretend" believers; they are redeemed people held accountable for **lawlessness**. The "just" are those who have done good, while the "unjust" are redeemed people who have done evil.

4. The Historical Warning of Korah

The record of **Numbers 16** is provided as a lesson in accountability and the **consequences of presumption**. Korah, a leader among the redeemed, led **250 well-known chiefs** to rebel against Moses, falsely claiming that "all the congregation is holy" and that the Lord was among them all regardless of their conduct. God destroyed them—along with their households—to demonstrate that He holds His redeemed leadership responsible for their **actions and rebellion**.

5. One Resurrection with Two Outcomes

Scripture points to a single resurrection of the redeemed—the **first resurrection**—which has two distinct outcomes based on a person's deeds. **Daniel 12:2** describes this as many who sleep in the dust awaking, some to **everlasting life** and some to **shame**

and everlasting contempt. This is the same event described in **Acts 24:15** as a resurrection of "both the just and the unjust" and in **John 5:28–29** as a resurrection of life or judgment.

6. The Judgment Seat and Deeds Done in the Body

Every redeemed person must appear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive what is due for what was done in the body, **whether good or evil**, according to **2 Corinthians 5:10**. The sources claim the church often "twists" this scripture to ignore the mention of "**evil**," yet the "Bema" is where accountability for one's life story is settled.

7. The Mystery of the Resurrection and the "Changed"

The Apostle Paul revealed a "mystery" in **1 Corinthians 15:51** that was not disclosed to Daniel: that not all the redeemed will "sleep" (die), but some will be **alive at Christ's coming**. These living redeemed will be "**changed**" and gathered together rather than resurrected. This first resurrection is specifically for those who "**belong to Christ**".

8. Defining Those Who "Belong to Christ"

Belonging to Christ is not a one-off emotional event but an active process of change. According to **Galatians 5:24**, those who belong to Christ "**have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires**". This active-tense effort to walk in the will of the Father is what determines whether one is raised to life or to judgment.

Biblical References

- **Ezekiel 34:7–10:** God's indictment of shepherds who feed themselves and neglect the sheep.
- **Matthew 11:27:** Revelation of the Father only through the Son.
- **Matthew 7:21–23:** Those crying "Lord, Lord" who are rejected as workers of unrighteousness.
- **Numbers 16:1–33:** The rebellion of Korah and the destruction of the 250 chiefs.
- **2 Corinthians 5:10:** Appearing before the judgment seat for deeds done, whether good or evil.
- **John 5:24–29:** Passing from death to life; resurrection of life and resurrection of judgment.

- **Acts 24:15:** The resurrection of both the just and the unjust.
- **Titus 1:1–2:** The hope of Ionian life promised long ago.
- **Daniel 12:1–2:** Awakening from the dust to life or shame and contempt.
- **1 Corinthians 15:17–51:** The order of resurrection; falling asleep in Christ; the mystery of being changed.
- **Galatians 5:24:** Crucifying the flesh to belong to Christ.
- **Romans 10:9–10:** Confessing with the mouth (noted as God's job to lead people to).

Study Questions

- **Redemption vs. Salvation:** According to the sources, why is it impossible to understand the Bible correctly without distinguishing between these two terms?
- **Korah's Error:** What was the specific theological claim made by Korah in **Numbers 16** that modern churches often repeat?
- **The "Lord, Lord" Group:** Why does the speaker argue that the people shut out of the gate were truly redeemed rather than "pretenders"?
- **Resurrection Categories:** How many resurrections are in view in **Daniel 12:2**, and what are the two possible outcomes for those raised?
- **Belonging to Christ:** According to **Galatians 5:24**, what is the primary evidence that a person belongs to Christ?
- **The Bema Seat:** What specific word in **2 Corinthians 5:10** is often omitted or ignored by modern theology to avoid "discomfort"?

Answer Key

- Because **redemption** is God's past act of purchase, whereas **salvation** is a future inheritance event determined by a person's walk of faith.
- He claimed that **"all the congregation are holy"** and that the Lord was among them all, implying that their conduct or rebellion did not affect their standing.
- Because they were **prophesying, casting out demons, and doing mighty works** in the name of Jesus, which are not the actions of "pretenders" but of the redeemed.
- There is **one resurrection** in view; the outcomes are **everlasting life** or

shame and everlasting contempt.

- They have **crucified the flesh with its passions and desires**; it is an active, ongoing effort of discipline.
- The word "**evil.**" Modern theology focuses on rewards for "good" but ignores the consequences for evil deeds done in the body.

Exhortations

- **Jump Off the Wrong Train:** If you are on a "theological train" that teaches your actions have no consequences, **jump off now**. The tracks are already paved, and that train will not change direction; get on the right train by following the words of Jesus Christ.
- **Abandon Presumption:** Do not presume that "everything is okay" just because you are in a church. Remember the lesson of Korah: God holds His **redeemed leadership and people accountable** for their ongoing obedience and presumption.
- **Crucify the Flesh:** Belonging to Christ is not a one-time "decision" or a hand held up in a meeting. It requires the **daily, active agony** of crucifying your own desires to align with the will of the Father.
- **Prepare in the Present:** This life is the only determining factor for your future inheritance. Do not wait for Christ to return to start your preparation; the **judgment seat** will only consider what was done in the body now.