



THE APOSTLES' CREED





³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,



⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.



You WANT Jesus to judge the living and the dead.

You NEED Jesus to judge the living and the dead.

You CAN BE READY for Jesus to judge the living
and the dead.



42And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.



For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.



And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works.



...because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.



You WANT Jesus to judge the living and the dead because...

- He has a clean record
- He knows the whole story
- He has trustworthy character



“To ask God to redeem Jerusalem but not cast sin outside the city walls is like asking a doctor to heal your body without excising the disease. Like asking the light to arise without casting out the darkness. Like asking for restoration to come and destruction to remain. It is to ask for a contradiction. God excludes sin from his kingdom because of his goodness, not in opposition to or in spite of it.”

- Joshua Ryan Butler, *Skeletons in God's Closet*



You NEED Jesus to judge the living and the dead because...

- Judgment is the means by which Jesus will heal sin in you by settling your account with him
- Judgment is the means by which Jesus will heal sin in your relationships by settling accounts between people
- Judgment is the means by which Jesus will heal sin in the world by settling accounts in society



But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.



But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.



...on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.



¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.



¹⁴“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.



They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but
God raised him on the third day...



¹⁰For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” ¹¹Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” ¹²But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” ¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—



“The damned are, in one sense, successful, rebels to the end; the doors of hell are locked on the inside. . . They enjoy forever the horrible freedom they have demanded, and are therefore self-enslaved.”

- C.S. Lewis, *The Problem of Pain*



Jesus WILL come and you can BE READY...

- Accept Jesus' invitation
- Release your transgressors to God
- Live a life you won't have to apologize for...
- ...instead live with expectation for the promise