

# MATTHEW 25 vs 31

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**Matthew was an eyewitness to Jesus**, this prophetic portion of scripture mirrors Matthew's record of **the parable of the wheat and the tares**. Is this a composite of several events? Perhaps! What we know is that we all will stand before him. Perhaps, this is what Peter calls: **the Day of God**; and it seems that John has us know: after Christ reigns for 1000 years, there is still one last battle with Satan and his followers; then the great white throne, and the dead, small and great stand before God.

The Judgement of the Gentile Nations,

**31 When the Son of man comes in His glory and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit upon the throne of His glory:**/ clearly foretold by Daniel; the citizens of heaven; and probably the Love of His life -- His Church also,

**32 and before Him will be gathered all nations, and He will separate them one from another, as a Shepherd divides sheep from the goats /** where will this gathering be? We don't know. Remember: Jesus, the good Teacher... just spoke the last 3 lessons to His students; and these words let us know, there is a final exam! When is this? Perhaps at the individual's death. We don't know. He didn't tell us. But when it happens, everyone will know, no one will be absent; so keep your eyes on Him! in front of Him; without your help, or mine; without consulting us. Can you imagine? It's amazing, isn't it?/ and who are these sheep and goats? Well, all the nations from all the generations... all the people who ever lived:

**The sheep will hear His voice and respond.** Their eyes will be on Him. And as all the nations are separated one by one... that might take more than a ½ hour... don't you think? But I guess this Son of Man He has all the time in the world... if the world and time exist any longer. He certainly has all eternity; and that's good... because this might take some time.

And **the goats**... will be the ones that are a little impatient with this process; not used to standing in line... because we know... time is money. And who does He think He is to interrupt their very busy schedule?

**He will separate them one from another, as a Shepherd divides sheep from the goats.**

**33 And He will set the sheep on His right, but the goats on His left.**



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**34 Then the King will say to those on His right,**

**Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world** / planned a long time ago... according to His good pleasure... those blessed of their adopted Father Eternal, made in His image and His likeness.

**35 For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat: I was thirsty, and you gave Me a drink: I was a stranger, and you took Me in** / about these verses, Matthew Henry says, it seems Christ is more among us than we think. Surely the Lord is in this place, and we did not know it.

The King continues...


**36 When I was naked, you clothed Me: I was sick, and you visited Me: I was in prison, and you came to Me** / notice: they didn't even have to cure him, or release him; they just visited him; like all the faithful women who stood with Him... and just doing that... ministered to Him... at the cross.

**37 Then will the righteous answer Him, saying, Lord, when did we see you hungry, and feed you? or thirsty, and give you drink?** / those on the right... who by their response, give evidence they listen to His every word... yet, by their spontaneity... with much surprise.

**38 When did we see you a stranger, and take you in? or naked, and clothe you?**

**39 Or when did we see you sick, or in prison, and come to you?** / these people on the right; and doing right... were greatly confused.

**40 And the King will answer and say to them, Truly Amen! I say to you as you have done to one of the least of these My brothers and sisters you have done to Me** / be convinced with what I tell each of you; the King speaks to them individually; / as you did to the littlest: in number, in importance, in status; so not the VIP's... rather the very unimportant people, so you did to Him,

 **41 Then He will say to them on the left Depart from Me you cursed, into the fire eternal** / Go away! / by now, these annoyed, edgy folk, who have been waiting... the last group; you see their impatience grow. The King gets to the point rather fast like when someone rips a ripe fart, and the wretched stench instantly fills the room; He says, all you stinking God doomed; Go away from Me. In Greek this phrase is 5 words: **eis to pyr to aionios, into the fire the eternal,**

**Depart into eternal fire, prepared for the devil and his angels** / originally prepared for a third of heaven, rebels against God; now for them. The King says, Go join the ring-leader of the rebellion with his damned fools, false prophet, and those morons who followed the great deceiver.

**42 For I was hungry, and you gave Me no food: I was thirsty, and you gave Me no drink:**

**43 I was a stranger, and you did not take Me in: naked, and you did not clothe Me: sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me** / said differently: when I was in distress, you took My meat and drink. You banished and deported Me. When I was in need you busied yourself with ease and pleasure; not grieving for the affliction of Joseph. Our omissions, what we neglect or forget to do can ruin us.

Professor Tasker of London University once said, It is not so much our wrong doing that evokes this severest censure, as the utter failure to do good. Our omissions, what we didn't do... seems to be more damning... than the wrong things we did do.

Dr. Tasker adds, in order to excuse themselves for having failed to render service to their Lord... on the basis that they had no opportunity to do so, they ask in a tone of injured innocence... yet somewhat agitated...

**44 Then they will also answer saying, Lord / uh! when did we see you umm! hungry, or thirsty, or / what else did He say? Oh, yeah, a stranger, naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister to you?** / those on the left...finally, they get to speak up, notice, they did not care to repeat the charge... and notice, unlike the other group that had listened to His every word... they who had slighted and dismissed their responsibility, now slighted and dismissed their indictment against them. For them, it was frivolous and a waste of time. In other words, they answer...

**Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger...** blah, blah, blah etc. etc. etc. and the other things you mentioned...

**45 Then He will answer them, saying, Truly Amen! I say to you, as you did not to one of the littlest of these, you did not to Me** / be confident what I tell you. Can you imagine? Not even once giving a cup of cold water while representing the Lord; something that doesn't even cost us anything; not even a cup of cold water.

And the King concludes...

**46 These will go away into eternal punishment** / they will depart, but will they go away willingly? voluntarily? Probably not; it's terrible: **but the righteous, into life eternal.** Are these just some empty threats from a powerless God? John Calvin answered: If the devil and his angels who have destroyed this world cannot escape, can the worms of the earth think to escape?