

Reading Family Church
Sunday 27th April 2008

Our King, Our Judgement, Our Reward

1. OUR KING

1st Reading Rev 19:11 – 16

Jesus Christ came through death with sovereign power, entering into an imperishable never ending life. He cannot die again, death no longer has dominion over him! The grave couldn't hold him. God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every other name. The one who hung dead on a cross is now reigning in Glory! All of history will conclude with Christ's return. Our King will return!

Jesus says He is coming soon. The world is cynical about such a claim but we must remain steadfast in what the bible says and not take any of the world's cynicism. Jesus WILL RETURN. He is coming back to judge everyone.

2. OUR JUDGEMENT

2nd Reading Rev 20:11 – 15

Everyone is destined to die once, and then we will face our judgement. No amount of money, fame or good planning will cause us to escape death.

There are different books: there is "the book of life" & the books that record everything we have done in life. Everybody is in the books that record our lives, but only Christians are in "the book of life". The record books mean that everyone will be judged according to what they have done, so everyone will receive a different verdict. Some non Christians will receive more severe punishment than others because of what they have done. Some Christians will receive greater rewards than others because of what they have done.

"If anyone's name was not in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

3. OUR REWARD

3rd Reading Rev 21: 1 – 7

The new heaven and the new earth will be real, renewed and restored to perfection. God will restore the whole of His creation under the new headship of Jesus Christ in what the bible calls a new heaven and a new earth.

In the city of our God, He will wipe every tear from our eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things will have passed away. We will have resurrection bodies that will be part of the renewed creation. In the new heaven and earth our bodies will never grow old or become weak or ill.

More important than all these things will be the fact that we will be in the presence of our King enjoying unhindered fellowship with Him and worshiping Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which of the 3 passages spoke to you the most? Why?
2. What was your reaction to the "2 Friends" skit?
3. How does your view of our reward spur you on in this life?
4. Name & pray for your friends and family whose names are not in the book of life.