

The Parable of the Sheep and Goats: The Final Judgment of Nations

Mathew 25: 31–46

1. *The Son of Man is coming to judge*

- a. Coming in glory
- b. Coming with angels
- c. Coming to be enthroned
- d. Coming to gather all nations
- e. Coming to separate the nations, both sheep and goats
 - 1) Sheep - favoured seat
 - 2) Goats - unfavoured seat

2. *The judgment of sheep will occur*

- a. The Judge: The King
- b. The invitation: Come
- c. The reward: The kingdom
- d. The basis of judgment: Ministering for Christ
- e. The ministry defined
 - 1) A humble, instinctive ministry: No thought of reward, only of helping people in need
 - 2) A ministry to the Lord's brothers

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory,
and all the angels with him,
he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory.

32 All the nations will be gathered before him,
and he will separate the people one from another
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

33 He will put the sheep on his right
and the goats on his left.

34 Then the King will say to those on his right,
'Come,
you who are blessed by my Father;
take your inheritance,
the kingdom prepared for you
since the creation of the world.

35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in,

36 I needed clothes and you clothed me,
I was sick and you looked after me,
I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

37 Then the righteous will answer him,
'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,
or thirsty and give you something to drink?

38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in,
or needing clothes and clothe you?

39 When did we see you sick or in prison
and go to visit you?'

40 The King will reply,
'I tell you the truth,
whatever you did
for one of the least of these brothers of mine,
you did for me.'

3. <i>The judgment of goats will occur</i> a. The judgment 1) Cut off from God 2) Eternal fire b. The basis of judgment 1) A failure to minister 2) A selfish life 3) A spiritual blindness 4. <i>The judgment is for eternity</i>	41 Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’ 44 They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’ 45 He will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’ 46 Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”
---	---