

# Judgment and Hope: A study of Joel, Obadiah and Malachi

## Are You Ready for Judgment Day?

### Malachi 4

## A. The Day of Judgment is Coming

Give a description of verses one through six of chapter 4.

1. Either a really “Bad Day” or a really “Good Day.”

Example: Two Face’s Coin

Arrogant and Wicked vs the Followers of God

2. Those who are saved from Judgment.
  - a.) Those who Fear God (Ex. A child’s fear of discipline from a Parent)
  - b.) Those who obey God’s commands.
- *Galatians 3:10-11* “But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse, for the scriptures say, “Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God’s Book of the Law.” So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the scriptures say that it is by faith that a righteous person has life.”
- Therefore, you do not rely on the law to save you.
- Instead, you obey Gods commands because he has given you Grace through your Faith.
- *Matthew 7:21 – 23* “Not everyone who calls out to me, “Lord! Lord! Will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. On judgment day many will say to me, Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.” but I will reply, I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God’s laws

## B. Developing a Heart for God (Malachi 4:6)

Finally, those who experience a change of Heart is expressed in verse 6. A person's heart is more than their love or even their emotions. The heart represents a person's will. The very essence of who they are...

Examples:

- A child that rebels against their parents and then returns to them with a changed heart.
- A father or mother who develops a hardness for their children because they did not follow His expectations and later has a changed heart.
- Conflict between generations that is restored.
- A restored relationship with your heavenly Father.

Conclusion: Just fearing God... Just obeying God does not earn salvation and therefore escape from judgment. But, when you repent and turn to God and allow him to change your heart through your Faith in Him... Then your actions (your heart) will confirm your faith.

*Galatians 6:10 – Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone...*

Matthew 25: 31-46 – Tell the story that illustrates on judgment day that the sheep and goats will be separated based on how they treated others. They are not being judged by their actions; however, their actions confirmed their faith or lack of faith. Because it revealed the condition of their heart.