



Sermon Series: 16 Fundamental Truths

Message Title: Truth #15 — The FINAL JUDGMENT

Truth #16 — The NEW HEAVENS & NEW EARTH

What are the 16 Fundamental Truths?

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| #1. The Scriptures Inspired | #2. The One True God |
| #3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ | #4. The Fall of Man |
| #5. The Salvation of Man | #6. The Ordinances of the Church |
| #7. Baptism in the Holy Spirit | #8. The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit |
| #9. Sanctification | #10. The Church and Its Mission |
| #11. The Ministry | #12. Divine Healing |
| #13. The Blessed Hope | #14. The Millennial Reign of Christ |
| #15. The Final Judgment | #16. The New Heavens & New Earth |

<https://ag.org/Beliefs/Statement-of-Fundamental-Truths>

THIS WEEK WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON TRUTHS #15 & #16

INTRO:

ESCHATOLOGY - refers to the study of beliefs regarding *the end times*, including death, Christ's return, millennial views, judgment, heaven & hell.

The Statement of Fundamental Truths affirms **four key eschatological beliefs**:

Truth 13 — The Blessed Hope

Truth 14 — The Millennial Reign of Christ

Truth 15 — The Final Judgment

Truth 16 — The New Heavens and the New Earth

The return of Jesus is one of the Assemblies of God's four core doctrines, alongside **salvation**, **Spirit baptism**, and **divine healing**.

FUNDAMENTAL TRUTH #15 — The FINAL JUDGEMENT

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead—those who have died without accepting Christ's salvation— will be raised and judged according to the way they lived. Anyone whose name is not found written in the Book of Life (the recorded list of those who have received Christ's forgiveness), together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be sent to the everlasting punishment in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone (sulfur), which is the second death.

Jesus gives this perfect analogy about the final judgement when He will divide those who truly know Him, served Him, and had a relationship with Him, and those who did not surrender to Him.

Matthew 25:31-46 — The Sheep & The Goats

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. **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, ‘Truly I tell you, **whatever you did for one of the least of these** brothers and sisters of mine, **you did for me.**’

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, ‘Truly I tell you, 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.”

Revelation 20:11-15 — The Judgement of the Dead

11 Then I saw a **great white throne** and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. **12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is **the book of life**. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. **13** The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. **14** Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. **15** Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

Will Christians be judged?

Followers of Jesus have already had their sins forgiven through Jesus’ shed blood on the cross.

John 5:24 — **24** “Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has **eternal life** and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

Instead of standing in front of the **Great White Throne**, followers of Christ will stand before the **Judgement Seat of Christ** and will be judged directly after the **Rapture**. This judgement does not

determine eternal destination, but rather the reward that will be received or lost in heaven. Here the saints will be individually judged for their deeds.

2 Corinthians 5:10

10 For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**, so that each of us may **receive what is due us** for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

SIGNIFICANCE of this Doctrine:

God is a God of love. He is also a God of Holiness & Justice. He cannot allow sin & wickedness to go unpunished. One false teaching suggests that all people, whether righteous or wicked, will eventually be saved. But this is contrary to the clear teaching of Scripture.

This doctrine is important because it reminds all humans that: the wages of sin is death (**Romans 6:23**), there is a coming judgement of everlasting punishment waiting the devil, his cohorts, and all the people who have not accepted God's gracious provisions of salvation.

He places this **burden for the lost & their waiting eternal punishment** on the hearts of those who already know His love & salvation. It is for this reason, a **primary mission of the Church** is **evangelizing the world**, seeking to save as many people as possible **from the judgement to come**.

2 Corinthians 5:11-21 — Ministry of Reconciliation

11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. **12** We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart.

13 If we are “out of our mind,” as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. **14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced** that one died for all, and therefore all died. **15** And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. **17** Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!**

18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us **the ministry of reconciliation**: **19** that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the **message of reconciliation**.

20 We are therefore **Christ's ambassadors**, as though God were **making his appeal through us**. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. **21** God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

FUNDAMENTAL TRUTH #16 — The NEW HEAVENS & NEW EARTH

In the midst of our daily struggles and difficulties, we are encouraged by the promise of what God has prepared for His faithful followers. Jesus told His disciples, and made the promise to all generations of Christians. *“I am going there to prepare a place for you...if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me” (John 14:2-3).*

Revelation 21:1-27 — A New Heaven and a New Earth

1 Then I saw “**a new heaven and a new earth**,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. **2** I saw the Holy City, the **new Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. **4** ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

5 He who was seated on the throne said, “**I am making everything new!**” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” **6** He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

7 **Those who are victorious will inherit all this**, and I will be their God and they will be my children. **8** But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”

The New Jerusalem, the Bride of the Lamb

9 One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” **10** And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me **the Holy City, Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God. **11** It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

12 It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. **13** There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. **14** The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

15 The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. **16** The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod

and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length (1400 Miles), and as wide and high as it is long. **17** The angel measured the wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits (200 ft.) thick.

18 The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. **19** The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, **20** the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst.

21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass. **22** I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. **23** The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. **25** On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. **26** The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it.

27 Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the *Lamb's book of life*.

Revelation 22:1-21—**1** Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb **2** down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood *the tree of life*, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. **4** They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. **5** There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

John and the Angel

6 The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place." **7** "Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll."

8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. **9** But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. *Worship God!*"

10 Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. **11** Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy."

Epilogue: Invitation and Warning

12 “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and *I will give to each person according to what they have done.* **13** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

14 “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.

15 Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. **16** “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

17 The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life. **18** I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll.

19 And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll. **20** He who testifies to these things says, “*Yes, I am coming soon.*” *Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*

21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.

SIGNIFICANCE:

After the thousand-year Millennium, all Christians will dwell forever with God and have access to a beautifully restored universe. This doctrine is important because it assures us of our future abode in a world far better than this one. —**MINISTRY of RECONCILIATION!!! (2 Corinthians 5:11-21)**

ALTAR — PRAY FOR THE LOST to come to CHRIST!!!

NEXT STEPS...

SMALL GROUPS:

Wednesdays @7:00PM LIVE & on ZOOM! **GOING DEEPER** w/Pastor Christian

Tuesdays @9:15AM w/Rosella

Thursdays @7:00PM w/Doris

Thursdays @7:00PM w/Pastor Christian

Book Available on Amazon & I have some copies here!!!

NEXT WEEK: DANGEROUS PRAYERS!