



## The Final Judgment

**Background** – This series is designed to give encouragement and hope about the end times and the return of Christ.

**Key Verse** - [Matthew 25:34](#)

**Core Passage:** [Matthew 25:31-46](#)

**Take Away** - Jesus loves us and doesn't want us to fear His return. So keep watch and look forward to your inheritance.

**Sermon Guide:**

I. **What do you see when you read the words of Jesus concerning the end times?**

[Matthew 25:31-33](#), [Daniel 7:13-14](#), [Daniel 12:1-3](#)

A. There are two kinds of people in the world that will face judgment.

i. Sheep

[Matthew 25:34-40](#), [Galatians 6:9-10](#)

ii. Goats

[Matthew 25:41-45](#), [Galatians 6:7-8](#)

B. What is the basis for our salvation?

[Matthew 25:46](#), [Isaiah 58:6-10](#), [Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

C. How should we live until His return?

[2 Peter 3:9](#), [Romans 10:1-4](#), [Revelation 20:11-13](#)

II. **How can we apply God's Word to our lives?**

1) Is there clear evidence that you have genuine faith in Jesus? Rejoice and be at peace.

2) Why have you not put your trust in Jesus? Make a decision.

### III. Family/Small Group Discussion

- 1) Pray – That the words of Jesus in Matthew 25 will encourage and instruct our hearts.
- 2) Briefly review the sermon outline. Have people read aloud a few of the scriptures covered and explain why they are important and meaningful.
- 3) Discussion questions:
  1. Just like we have read in the past two weeks in Matthew 24:36-25:30, Jesus continued the theme of comparison between those who are true believers and those who are not. Compare and contrast the two groups detailed in [Matthew 25:31-46](#).
  2. Consider [verses 34-40](#). List the acts of service that Jesus said were taken on his behalf. Of these six areas, in which do you find yourself serving those most naturally? Which is most difficult for you? Why?
  3. In Jesus' examples of serving, He used needs that were prevalent among people of that time and culture. If Jesus were speaking to us today, what groups of those in need and what acts of service might He have used that are relevant to our time and culture? (For example: *"I was an unwed, single mother and you didn't make me feel ashamed as you offered me groceries."*) Use the framework of verses [verses 35-36](#) to challenge you to think of needs and service opportunities in our culture today.  
*I was \_\_\_\_\_, and you \_\_\_\_\_.*
  4. We must remember that God loves each of us before you do anything for Him. In light of this truth, how can we keep the things we do from becoming things to check off our "Christian to-do list"? What should be the motivation of our hearts as we serve others?
  5. Spend time in prayer asking God to open our community of believers' hearts and minds to ways we can serve others. Ask God to empower you to "dream big" with Him as we look for other opportunities to serve as a community in our community. What is one need that comes to mind for which you will pray?