

# ACCORDING TO GOD'S WORD

By Rev. Ted Brooks

## MESSAGE

Multitudes multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. Joel 3:14  
The sun and the moon shall be darkened and the stars shall withdraw their shining. Verse 15. It is the duty of every minister to preach God's word to bring people to a decision you will either reject him or receive him.

In the book of Joel we see the future dealing of how God is going to deal with a gentile nation. (Zech. 12:2-3 Matt. 25:32) America has had the word preached unto her. Churches have been built all over this world, yet Joel here has called upon this Gentile nation to come to God because her fates are overflowing, her wickedness is great.

Listen church member, if you have been saved you will be among this multitude whether you have been faithful or not. Here the Lord God Almighty will render His decision. Oh no, at this meeting God will not wait upon a motion by your deacon to open His court. No, my friend, He will not need a second by any of us. Daniel declared "The judgement was set and the books were opened." Daniel 7:10

He who stood was the ancient of days, whose garment was white as snow and the hair of his head was pure like wool. Verse 9.

In the Psalmist's writing, David declared Him (God) to be before the mountains were brought forth or ever, or ever, thou hadst formed the earth and the world even from everlasting to everlasting. Psalm 90:2.

Listen, my friend, it will be God, the source of all living fountains, of all law that is to preside in judgement. No, my friend, it will not be your chairman deacon. No it will not be a pastor who we may love. No it will be God Himself to make His final decision. You won't need to worry about witnesses to speak in your behalf. Daniel declared I saw holy angels of God. I saw 10,000 x 10,000 who ministered unto Him (God).

This is not the second event. Christ here has been given dominion and glory-a kingdom of all people, nations, languages, should serve Him. This is just before His return. This is the end of his mediatorship. In typical service- those who stand here and who have made a confession of repentance

and found faithful will be transferred to the sanctuary of Jesus.

This, my friend, as the old saying goes, is where the rubber will meet the road. This will be the final day of judgement. No more games will be played. This is where Paul declared our works will be put into the fire. Here all our works will be investigated. My friend, the law enforcement does not always get their man, but in this valley every man will be present. Only cases heard here will be those of professed people of God. There will be no excuses. You remember the story Jesus told in Luke's gospel how a man gave a great supper and he begged many to come and there were those who began to make excuses. One said he brought some land. Another said he had purchased some oxen. Finally another said, I just got married and they all asked to be excused. Luke 14:16-24. There were given none then and there in this valley of decision none shall be accepted. The thing you need to remember is this, the wicked will be separated in a different place at a later time. I Peter 4:17 tells us that judgement must begin with the church.

The Books that are opened here will be deeds of mankind. All are registered in this book. You remember in Malachi 3:16 how God said they that fear the Lord hearkened and a book of remembrance was written. You see all those people we hurt down here and all those times you could have spoken kindly and all those vicious lies, all are recorded. All things will be determined in this valley and God will render a verdict. The judgement was set and the book will be opened. Revelation 20:12 warns us of another book of life- things were written here according to our work.

Just now I remember a young preacher who made a great sacrifice to go to seminary school. When he had finished school, no church wanted him. He was forced to seek employment with the world. In doing so he was killed. He had met with many who made him promises. Well God made him a promise and kept it. He promised him eternal life and for those who place value on their type of preacher will stand

along side of this young preacher, all to receive their reward. When Nehemiah recognized God's power and His demand upon the people and knew God was keeping a record, he cried out- "Remember me O my God." Nehemiah 13:14.

In this Book of Life will be the names of all those who have entered into His service. Jesus once told His disciples to rejoice because their names are written in this Book of Remembrance. In this book all our deeds whether good or evil shall be brought into judgement. Eccl. 12:14. For what is the purpose or motive of every idle word man speaketh: They shall give an account of it. Matthew 12:36. Why? God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness which He has ordained.

Friend, every temptation is registered. Every evil thought. Every sacrifice. Every suffering and sorrow endured to Christ's sake are registered and recorded. Psalm 56:8 David said thou knowest my wandering. He has put my tears in a bottle. In this book will contain all our sins, our secret reasons for meeting behind closed doors. How you plan to rid your church of certain members, those who do not conform to your doctrine, all works my friend will be placed in review before God. All things are registered, faithful or the unfaithful. All are chronicled in order, all unfilled duties, every secret sin, every unlawful assembly. Friend, there is a lot of controversy about school merger. Let me say this. It will all pass before God. God shall bring every work into judgement's seat. Eccl. 12:14.

You see, when man neglects to follow the law of God and to follow its standards, he leaves only himself and his own righteousness to stand before God which are as filthy rags. Let me close by saying this, if you neglect heaven sent warnings and if you have wasted precious moments and have given way to foolishness, listen to this warning found in Luke's gospel. But they who shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world and the resurrection from the dead. Luke 20:35.

John declared they that have done good shall come forth. (5:29) Listen friend, when the books are opened, every name

will be mentioned. Every name will be heard. Every name investigated closely- every name accepted- names rejected, sins forgiven, sins on the book unconfessed. Here in this valley of multitudes names will be blotted out. You say Bro. Brooks, you don't understand. I've been sealed. That's right and that's why all of us will be among the millions who will stand and if our garment has not borne the spots of this world, and we have endured till the end, we shall hear Him say enter in. But if you have used the church for your own belly gain, listen to what God has said to those ministers who use the church for politics. Listen to what He said to all those who started out faithfully and for the moment's pleasure of this world he turned back: "And the Lord said unto Moses whosoever hath sinned against me him will I blot out of my book." Exodus 32:33. I ask you again, who will you believe, God or man. Do you love the praises of man more than God?

Sinner man, I will be the first to tell you there are and there have always been false Christians in the church, false ministers, false deacons, that is why Jesus warns that he would begin with the church to judge her and her conduct. We have witnessed along with you ministers who have become victims of unchaste sexuality, but God has promised to take vengeance upon those who obey not His word.

But you don't need to be lost and to neglect so great a salvation. Jesus is worthy of your love. Listen, young boy girl, man, woman, have you counted the cost if you soul was lost. A few seconds in hell you would regret every day you lived upon this earth. Friend, if our churches would spend a few seconds in hell, she would break out across this land and there would be no need of gun control, no need to lock our doors, a few minutes in hell and crime rates would drop to zero. A few seconds in hell you could leave your bank open. A few seconds in hell, deacons, preachers would be found in the church according to God's word.

Sinner, you need to call upon Him in repentance. Get mom or dad to read to you Romans 10:8-12. Friend, one day we all shall appear before God. Amen.

## Pembroke Kiwanis

Attorney Dexter Brooks of the law firm of Locklear, Brooks, Jacobs & Sutton spoke on the Civil Justice System at the last weekly meeting held at the Town and Country Restaurant. The two branches of the law-civil and criminal systems-were compared. The criminal law system handles cases where there has been a wrong against North Carolina or the federal government. That kind of behavior is not allowed. The State of North Carolina has an interest in not having its taxpayers hurt. The victim is usually not interested in the State punishing the person, but is interested in who is going to pay for the injuries. The person assaulted usually sues and bears the burden of proof beyond a reasonable doubt in Civil Court. The burden of proof is usually more difficult in Criminal Court. In Criminal Court, a defendant does not have to be a witness against himself. In Civil Court he is. There are criminal and civil attorneys. There are different kinds of courts-trial and appellate. Trial Courts are at the County seats. Witnesses take oaths of truth, there is a trial recorded, the trial may take months. A jury decides the unanimous verdict. In the Appellate Court, the judge decides the question of fact, dealing with questions of law. There must be questions of support of the evidence.

done all over again. District Courts have no jury. They are of the small claims type of \$1500 or less. The magistrate decides the cases. The Superior Court decides cases of \$10,000 or more. District Court litigates cases under \$10,000. Our North Carolina judges are elected for superior court, appellate court, district court, and the State Supreme Court. The legation process is very involved, including the draft of the case, or complaint, prayer for relief, the service of pleading stage, the discovery stage, and then the trial stage. At this point there is a panel of 12 and the verdict has to be unanimous. The jury is selected by chance. Each party has eight challenges and can take eight off the panel. Once the jury is selected comes the evidence stage. The plaintiff and then the defendant presents the evidence. The judge decides what evidence can be considered by the jury. Then comes the closing arguments and the questions to decide. The jury elects a foreman; thus the Civil Justice System is set in action. Attorney Brooks presented a very intriguing description of our justice system.

The club voted to sponsor the Little League Phillies' trip to Permastone and Coach Brooks and Vernon Oxendine as chaperones.

Visitors were from the Sanford Club including Governor-elect Rusty Hodges, Seth Cox, Ed Garrison and

David Riddle, president. Presiding-president-elect Garth Locklear, invocation-Reggie Strickland, song leader-Ed Teets, reporter-Ken Johnson.

BY KEN JOHNSON

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