

Two Appointments — Accountability vs. Judgment

1. Believers: Accountable, Not Condemned

Remind them:

Use: 2 Corinthians 5:10

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ...”

Explain briefly:

- As believers, we will stand before Christ
- Not to determine salvation, but to **give an account of our lives**
- It is about **rewards, faithfulness, and obedience**

“Because we belong to Jesus, our sins are forgiven—but our lives still matter.”

2. Unbelievers: The Great White Throne Judgment

Transition gently but clearly: “There is another judgment—not for believers—but for those who reject Christ.”

Use: Revelation 20:11–12

“Then I saw a great white throne... and the dead were judged according to their works...”

Use: Revelation 20:15

“And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”

- This judgment is for those **without Christ**
 - They are judged by their works—but **works cannot save them**
 - The final result is **eternal separation from God**
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3. The Key Difference

- **Believers:**
 - Judgment Seat of Christ
 - Accountability & rewards
 - Covered by grace
 - **Unbelievers:**
 - Great White Throne
 - Judgment & eternal separation
 - No covering for sin
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4. Supporting Truth

Use: John 3:18

“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already...”

- The difference is **not how good someone is**
 - The difference is **whether they belong to Jesus**
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5. Final Application

**“One day, every person will stand before God.
The only question is—which judgment will you stand in?”**

- Have I truly given my life to Christ?
 - Am I living daily with accountability in mind?
 - If I stood before Him today, would I be faithful?
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Closing Illustration Tie-In (Ledger Book)

“There are two ways this story ends...”

- For the believer:
 - The record is **covered by the blood of Jesus**
- For the unbeliever:
 - The record remains **unchanged and fully accountable**

Closing Scripture & Hope

Use: Romans 8:1

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus...”

Closing Prayer

“Lord, thank You that through Jesus we are not condemned, but saved by grace. Help us to live with accountability, knowing our lives matter to You. Give us urgency to walk faithfully and to share the truth with others. Let us be ready when we stand before You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”