

**Article of Faith 9**  
**Resurrection of the Dead and General Judgment**

- Article of Faith #9 – Resurrection of the Dead and General Judgment
  - We believe in the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting.

1. Resurrection of the Just and Unjust

A. The resurrection of the dead will occur at the return (the second coming) of Jesus Christ

- 1 Cor. 15:51-52 – *“51) Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”*
  - See all of 1 Corinthians 15 for full treatment of the resurrection
- 1 Thess. 4:16-17 – *“16) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”*
- Matt. 24:30-31 – *“30) And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31) And he shall send his angels with a sound of a great trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”*

B. General Resurrection

- The will be only “one resurrection” where all who have died – both elect (the just) and non-elect (the unjust) – are raised at one time
  - *“the day of the Lord”* – 2 Pet. 3:10, 1 Thess. 5:2, (Rom. 2:16)
  - *“the day of the Lord Jesus Christ”* – 1 Cor. 1:8, 5:5
  - *“the day of God”* – 2 Peter 3:12
  - *“the day of redemption”* – Eph. 4:30
  - *“the day of judgment”* – 2 Pet. 2:9
  - *“the day of wrath...”* – Rom. 2:5
  - *“the last day”* – John 6:39,40,44,54, 11:24, 12:48
  - *“the hour”* – John 5:28, Matt. 25:13
  - *“that day”* – 2 Thess. 1:9; 2 Tim. 1:18, 4:8; Matt. 7:22
- Acts 24:15 – *“And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.”*
  - *“a resurrection”* (singular, not multiple or plural) where both the just and unjust will be raised together
- Daniel 12:1-2 – *“1) And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time they people shall be delivered, every one that is written in the book. 2) And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.”*

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1. Resurrection of the Just and Unjust (continued)

B. General Resurrection (continued)

- John 5:28-29 – *“28) Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29) And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”*
  - All men will be raised in the same “hour”, both good and evil, debunking the notions of a secret rapture and multiple resurrections of modern dispensationalism
- Rev. 1:7 – *“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”*
  - “Every eye shall see” Jesus at His return, even the men from the first century who “pierced Jesus” during His crucifixion will see Him, so therefore every person who is already dead will be resurrected just before, or simultaneous to, Jesus’s second coming
- Heb. 6:1-2 – *“1) Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection, not laying again the foundation of... 2)...resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.”*

C. Resurrection of the Just

- The resurrection of the just refers to the raising again to eternal life of God’s elect that have been made just in the sight of God by the blood of Jesus Christ
  - Acts 24:15 – *“And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.”*
  - Luke 14:14 – *“And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.”*
  - Rom. 5:9 – *“Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.”*
- Jesus has promised to raise again to eternal life all the elect that were given to Him to save on the cross
  - John 14:19 – *“...because I live, ye shall live also.”*
  - John 6:39-40,44 – *“39) And this is the Father’s will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40) And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. 44) No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.”*
  - 2 Cor. 4:14 – *“Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.”*

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1. Resurrection of the Just and Unjust (continued)

C. Resurrection of the Just (continued)

- Jesus has promised to raise again to eternal life all the elect that were given to Him to save on the cross (continued)
  - John 5:28-29 – “28) *Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29) And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.*”
  - Daniel 12:2-3 – “2) *And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. 3) And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.*”
  - John 11:23-26 – “23) *Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. 24) Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. 25) Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26) And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?*”
  - Luke 20:35-38 – “35) *But they which be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: 36) Nether can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection...38) For he is not God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him.*”
- When the just are resurrected they will be changed into the image of Jesus Christ and taken to be in glory with Him
  - 1 Cor. 15:51-52 – “51) *Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*”
  - 1 Thess. 4:13-17 – “13) *But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as other which have no hope. 14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so to them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*”
  - Col. 3:4 – “*When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*”

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1. Resurrection of the Just and Unjust (continued)

C. Resurrection of the Just (continued)

- When the just are resurrected they will be changed into the image of Jesus Christ and taken to be in glory with Him (continued)
  - 1 John 3:2 – *“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”*
    - Phil. 3:21, Ps. 17:15, Job 14:12-15, 19:26-27

D. Resurrection of the Unjust

- Acts 24:15 – *“And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.”*
- Daniel 12:1-2 – *“1) And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time they people shall be delivered, every one that is written in the book. 2) And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.”*
- John 5:28-29 – *“28) Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29) And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”*

2. General Judgment

A. God is the only Judge of the world, and His judgment is perfectly righteous and holy

- Isaiah 33:22 – *“For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.”*
  - Gen. 18:25; Heb. 12:23; Ps. 50:6, 75:7, 98:9
- Ps. 96:13 – *“Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with truth.”*
- Rom. 2:2-6 – *“2) But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. 3) And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?... 5) But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God of God; 6) Who will render to every man according to his deeds:”*

B. God appointed Jesus Christ as the Judge of all men

- Acts 17:31 – *“Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”*

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2. General Judgment (continued)

B. God appointed Jesus Christ as the Judge of all men (continued)

- John 5:22 (27) – *“For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:”*
- Rom. 2:16 – *“In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.”*
- Acts 10:42 – *“”And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of the quick and the dead.”*
  - 2 Tim. 4:1, 1 Pet. 4:5, Jude 15-16

C. All men will stand before Jesus Christ in judgment at the same time when He returns

- Matt. 25:31-33 – *“31) When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32) And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33) And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.”*
  - Matt. 13:39,49; Matt. 16:27; Heb. 6:2; Acts 24:25
- Dan. 7:10 – *“A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.”*
- Heb. 9:27-28 – *“27) And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: 28) So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin...”*
- Rom. 14:10-12 – *“10) But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ... 12) So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”*
- 2 Cor. 5:10 – *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”*
  - Rom. 2:16; Eccl. 3:17, 11:9, 12:14; Matt. 12:36, 16:27; 1 Cor. 4:5; Eph. 6:8; Prov. 24:12; Ps. 62:12, Jer. 32:19

D. In this setting of the final judgment, all men will confess Jesus Christ as Lord

- Rom. 14:10-12 – *“10) But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. 11) For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.”*
- 1 Cor. 4:5 – *“Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.”*
- Phil. 2:10-11 – *“10) That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11) And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*
  - Isaiah 45:23, 66:23; Rev. 5:13, 15:4; John 5:23

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2. General Judgment (continued)

E. Judgment of the elect (the just) on the right hand

- The elect (the sheep) are judged according to the work of Christ on the cross, not judged by their own works; they are seen as righteous in the sight of God because they have been justified by the blood of Jesus Christ; therefore, they are ushered in by God the Father to the kingdom that God has prepared for his children since before the world began
  - Matt. 25:32-40,46 – “32) *And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33) And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34) Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...46)...the righteous [shall go away] into life eternal.*”
- The joys of the elect will be eternal and everlasting
  - “*life eternal*” – Matt. 25:46
  - “*eternal life*” – John 3:15, 10:28
  - “*everlasting life*” – Matt. 19:29, John 3:36, 4:14, 5:24, 6:27,47; Dan. 12:2
  - “*shall awake, some to everlasting life... And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.*” – Daniel 12:2-3

F. Judgment of the non-elect (the unjust) on the left hand

- The non-elect (the goats) are judged according to their own works that have transgressed God’s law, for which the just penalty for sin is eternal death in the lake of fire
  - Matt. 25:32-33,41-46 – “32) *And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33) And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left...41) Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels...46) And these shall go away into everlasting punishment.*”
  - Rev. 20:11-15 – “11) *And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12) And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14) And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15) And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*”

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2. General Judgment (continued)

F. Judgment of the non-elect (the unjust) on the left hand (continued)

- What will happen to the unjust? They are condemned to everlasting punishment
  - *“punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power”* – 2 Thess. 1:9
  - *“shall go away into everlasting punishment”* – Matt. 25:46
  - *“awake...to shame and everlasting contempt”* – Dan. 12:2
  - *“shall come forth... unto the resurrection of damnation”* – John 5:29
  - *“everlasting fire”* – Matt. 25:41
  - *“cast into the lake of fire”* – Rev. 20:15
  - *“great day of his wrath”* – Rev. 6:17
    - Rev. 14:10, 19:15; 1 Thess. 5:10
  - *“in flaming fire taking vengeance on them”* – 2 Thess. 1:8
    - Isaiah 61:2, 63:4, 59:17; Ps. 149:7; Prov. 6:34, Micah 5:15
    - God finally takes vengeance and repays all those men who have sinned against Him
      - Rom. 12:19; Heb. 10:20; Ps. 94:1
      - Deut. 32:35,41,43