

Psalm 50 A Psalm of Asaph (Get ready to be judged)

The judge of all the world

¹⁻² The LORD is God, the Mighty One, but who is the LORD? It is none other than Jesus Christ, the Messiah¹. He is beauty perfected, and He has shone forth out of Jerusalem. The Father has set a time when everyone on the earth will stand before Him in judgment.

About the judge

³ One day the LORD will come to judge the world, and He will no longer be silent. When He comes, He will be like a raging wildfire devouring everyone who is wicked or sinful. The world will be chaotic until He finishes the job. ⁴ When that job is done, He will gather together all of His children who have trusted Christ as savior by faith alone, and He will reward them for their service. ⁵ He is definitely the right one for the job because the heavens give witness that God Himself, Jesus Christ, is the judge of all men.

Stop what you are doing, and ponder the significance of what I just shared with you. Yes, Christ will judge the wicked for their sin, and He will judge you, too. Be ready.

About judging His children

⁷ Listen to me all of you who have trusted in Jesus Christ as savior. Listen carefully, because I am your God, and I am going to show you where you are failing in your service to Me. ⁸ I don't reprove you for the possessions you give Me or the service you offer to Me as a sacrifice. ⁹ I have no need to take those things from you by force if you don't give them to Me, ¹⁰ because all of them are already mine. ¹¹ I know everything that transpires, even down to the smallest thing that moves in the field. ¹²⁻¹³ Some people offer meat as a sacrifice to me, but it is mine already. Do you think I will eat the flesh of these animals? If so, think again. I have no need to eat the flesh of any animal. ¹⁴ Doing things for Me is fine, but what I really want is a thankful heart for all that I am and do. This is a truly acceptable sacrifice. Then too, I want you to keep the promises you have made to Me and be faithful to Me. ¹⁵ If you will do these two things, then when you call upon me in times of trouble I will rescue you. This kind of service is what will bring true honor and glory to My holy name.

About judging the wicked

¹⁶ God loves His children, but He says to the wicked, "What right do you have to act religiously and talk piously about spiritual things?" ¹⁷ You have no right to do this. Why? Because you hate the thought of disciplining yourself to be good and godly, and you throw the words of the Bible down like you would discard a piece of trash. ¹⁸ When you see a thief, you eagerly approve of his actions, and you make sexually perverted people your partners in crime. ¹⁹ You say whatever evil things you want, and you say

things that are not true with the intention of deceiving the hearer. ²⁰ You talk badly about your friends instead of lifting them up, and you make false statements about your own brother that could ruin his reputation. ²¹ You do these things, and because I haven't taken you to task for the evil you have done, you thought I didn't care about your sin just like you don't care. Well, that is going to come to an end. Get ready, because I am going to face you in judgment for your sins, and I will lay out the charges in detail, one charge after another. ²² Now, all of you who do these sinful things, seriously consider the severe consequences of your sin. Repent, and abandon those sinful things forever. If you don't, I will literally rip you to shreds, and there be no one who can save you from the rightful punishment I will inflict upon you.

You have a choice – choose wisely

²³ Having said all of that, you have a choice. You can enjoy your sin and suffer the consequences, or you can choose to serve Me the right way. Realize that the man who offers the sacrifice of a thankful heart and lives in a good and godly manner honors Me. This is the kind of man that will live with Me forever in My heaven. Choose wisely.

¹ In John 14:6 Christ said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me." Therefore, the name "Jesus Christ, the Messiah" has been used.