

HIGH COURT

INTRODUCTION

- A. The Supreme Court of the United States is often referred to as the “High Court” since it is the highest federal court in the country, having jurisdiction over all other courts in the nation.
- B. Yet, there is a court higher than our Supreme Court, and I am not making reference to some international court, but to the court of the great and final judgment day.

I. THERE WILL BE A JUDGE.

- A. **1st Corinthians 4:4**
We certainly cannot judge ourselves.
- B. **John 5:22-30**
The honorable Jesus Christ will preside.
- C. **Acts 10:36-42; 17:30-31**
He was appointed to the bench by God the Father.

II. THERE WILL BE BAILIFFS.

- A. **Matthew 16:27; 25:31-33**
When the Judge is seated at the bench, He will be surrounded by officers of the court.
- B. **Daniel 7:10**
The number of these bailiffs will be limitless.
- C. **Philippians 2:9-11**
Instead of hearing, “Oyez; oyez; oyez; all rise!” all will be compelled on this occasion to kneel.

III. THERE WILL BE DEFENDANTS.

A. Romans 14:10; 2nd Corinthians 5:10

The entire human race from the beginning of time will stand before the bar to answer for their sins.

B. 1st Peter 4:17

The saints will be judged first, followed by the ungodly. There's a reason for this...

IV. THERE WILL BE WITNESSES.

A. 1st Corinthians 6:2

Once acquitted, saints will participate in the judgment of the world.

B. Luke 11:31-32

Those who have answered God's invitation to repent will testify against those who have refused.

C. Hebrews 11:7

Whenever the righteous do right, they implicitly condemn those who do not.

V. THERE WILL BE EVIDENCE.

A. Revelation 20:12

The Book of Life will be opened to reveal the actions for which we must give account.

B. Romans 2:16

There will be no need for a Fifth Amendment right to refrain from incriminating oneself insomuch as the Judge is already aware of our every secret.

VI. THERE IS LAW.

A. Romans 2:12-16

1. Those Israelites who lived and died under the Law of Moses will be judged according to that law.

a. **Nehemiah 8:1**

Moses presented God's law to Israel.

b. **Psalm 78:5**

The law God appointed in ancient Israel was not specifically intended for all nations, but for the descendants of Jacob.

2. Those gentiles who lived and died during the same period, but as gentiles were not subject to that law will still be judged according to natural order.

a. **Romans 1:20**

Even without direct revelation from God, the existence of God is evident by creation.

b. **Romans 1:21-25; Psalm 115:2-8**

The foolishness of idolatry should be plain enough regardless of whether or not God said so. How can something created by man be man's creator?

c. **Romans 1:26-27**

Homosexuality is clearly a violation of God's will because it is obviously unnatural.

B. John 12:48

Since Jesus came, His words have become the standard by which all will be judged, irrespective of whether or not they accept Him.

VII. THERE WILL BE EXECUTIONERS.

A. Matthew 13:47-50

Angels are the agents by whom the Lord will punish the wicked.

B. Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The notion of a "grim reaper" has its basis in reality inasmuch as "*the reapers are the angels*" (39), and their work is grim, indeed.

C. Hebrews 1:7

Contrary to popular conception, the scriptures do not depict angels as chubby little naked kids with curly hair and feathery wings. They are fiery creatures!

D. 2nd Thessalonians 1:7-10

Mighty angels will accompany Christ from heaven in order to take vengeance on the disobedient, using “*flaming fire*”. Their business is to punish.

E. 2nd Peter 2:10-11; Jude 9

Do not misunderstand, however. Angels do not function as judges in any way. They will simply execute the judgment of the Lord.

VIII. THERE WILL BE NO PLAINTIFF.

A. Zechariah 3:1

The word “Satan” literally means “adversary”, which is how he is depicted in Zechariah’s prophecy of the coming Christ. He is the opponent.

B. 1st Peter 5:8

The word “Devil” literally means “accuser”, and as such, he is already at work.

C. Job 1:6-11; 2:1-5

Satan has always been busy accusing the righteous of evil.

D. John 8:44; Revelation 12:7-11

As a murderer, conspirator, perjurer, and one who suborns perjury, the accuser of the righteous has no place in heaven, so he is recused from prosecuting cases in Christ’s court.

E. Revelation 20:10; Matthew 25:41

In fact, the Devil will receive his own punishment from Christ at that time.

F. With a Judge capable of knowing the secrets of men, there will be little need for a separate prosecutor on the final day, but be aware that the accuser is presently at work against each of us.

IX. THERE WILL BE AN ATTORNEY.

- A. An apparent conflict of interest will prevail that day. The one who has served as Attorney for many of us will preside as Judge and will not recuse Himself.
- B. **Isaiah 9:6**
One of the roles Jesus fulfills is that of "*Counselor*".
- C. **1st John 2:1**
He is our "*Advocate*" with the Father when we sin.
- D. **Hebrews 9:24**
He represents us to God.
- E. **1st Timothy 2:5**
He is the Mediator, the go-between for man to God.
- F. **Matthew 7:21-23**
Those who have not previously retained His services will be without counsel on that fateful day.