

Encounter

“The Court of Heaven”

Part 2

Review: Discovering An Accurate Relationship with God:

- **Jesus reveals God in person; the triune God. Jesus is God.**

Hebrews 1:1-3 (NIV)

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

1 Peter 1:2 (NIV)

who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the **Spirit**, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

John 14:8-9 (NIV)

Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.” Jesus answered: “Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?”

- **Jesus reveals God with His Words.**

John 12:49-50 (NLT)

I don't speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it. And I know his commands lead to eternal life; so I say whatever the Father tells me to say.”

This week: The Court of Heaven

King implies Judge

John 18:36-37 (NIV)

Jesus said, “**My kingdom is not of this world.** If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.” “You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “**You are right in saying I am a king.** In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, **to testify to the truth.** Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

1 Timothy 1:17 (NIV)

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Jesus as King/Lord

Definition: He to whom a person or thing belongs; about which he has the power of deciding.

Romans 14:11-12 (NIV)

It is written: “‘As surely as I live,’ says the Lord, ‘every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.’” So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Philippians 2:9-10 (NIV)

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

2nd Jesus as Judge

John 5:20-22 (NIV)

For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these. For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. **Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son,**

- a) **Jesus is perfectly qualified to be judge.**

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

1 John 1:5 (NIV)

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

- b) **Jesus is a judge that cannot be fooled. (See Psalm 139:7ff)**

Hebrews 4:13 (NIV)

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Proverbs 16:2 (NIV)

All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the Lord.

- c) **Jesus' judgment is perfectly just.**

Psalms 7:11 (NIV)

God is a righteous judge, a God who expresses his wrath every day.

d) Jesus' judgment includes everyone. There are no exceptions.

Matthew 12:36-37 (NIV)

But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”

1 Peter 4:17-18 (NIV)

For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And, “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

3rd Jesus as Advocate

He is the Prosecutor and Defendant.

Romans 8:1 (NIV)

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

1 John 2:1-5 (NIV)

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. The man who says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him:

His judgment leads us to a change of heart and actions.

Romans 2:4-8 (NIV)

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you **toward repentance**? But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. God “will give to each person according to what he has done.” To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

Fear and reverence lead to relationship.

Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

Proverbs 9:10 (NIV)

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.