

Scripture: Daniel 12 & John 5:18-29

LD 22.57 (& 19.52)

Singing: 261:1-3 – 212:1-5 – 246:1-3 – 31:3, 6, 7

Intro: *The clouds we so much dread, will burst with blessings on our head.*

A. We face dark clouds as our culture moves into the *Age of Un-reason*

B. Yet God's people need not fear but wait upon the LORD (Daniel 12)

THE FINAL HOUR OF THIS WORLD (1)

I. It comes unexpected II. It brings the resurrection

III. It ushers in the final judgment

I. The final hour comes unexpected

A. The context of John 5:19-47: *His claim to be equal with God* (vs. 18)

B. Jesus announced the final hour is coming (vs. 28)

1. In this hour we all will hear and obey His voice (1 Thess. 4:16)

2. This hour is nearer now than ever (Luke 21:34-36)

3. This hour comes unannounced (Luke 17:24 & Mark 13:32-37)

C. The hour is coming but why has it not come yet?

1. Many mock that it is a fable (2 Peter 3:3ff)

2. Peter has different answer (2 Peter 3:9, 15)

II. The final hour ushers in the general resurrection of saints and sinners

A. Jesus announced *all in the graves shall hear His voice* (John 5:28 – 6:40, 44)

1. This is a universal and effectual last call: 1 Cor. 15:51-52 & 1 Thess. 4:15,16
2. Besides raising the body, there also will be a return of all spirits (1 Thess. 4:14 and Rev. 20:13)

B. What a dreadful reunion will that be for the wicked!

1. John 5:29: *and they shall come forth ... they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation*
2. Daniel 12:2: *and shall awake to shame and everlasting contempt*

C. How opposite is the truth of God's saints!

1. Phil 3:21: *who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body* (1 Cor. 15:42-44; 1 John 3:2)

Take along: Jesus' hour is one hour closer again!

Thoughts on Judgment Day & Eternity

As death leaves us, so judgment will find us. (T. Brooks)

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Those who will not deliver themselves into the hand of God's mercy, cannot be delivered out of the hand of His justice. (M. Henry)

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Remember you are at the door of eternity and have other work to do than to trifle away time. Those hours which you spend in your closet with God are the golden spots of all your time and will have the sweetest influence upon your last hours. (John Mason)

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Time shall be no more when judgment comes,
And when time is no more change is impossible. (C. H. Spurgeon)

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The Lord has a golden scepter and an iron rod. Those who will not bow to the one shall be broken by the other. (T. Watson)