

## Presentation-6S, Investigative Judgment: Vindication of the Father

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**\*In the Investigative Judgment we have the Father judging men through Christ. At the same time we have the Father as the one being judged, yet winning His case.**

In the first instance Christ's kingdom is being made up through the investigative judgment, while in the second the character of the Father is vindicated.

The Father is accused by Satan of injustice and indifference. Thousands upon thousands of ungodly men have echoed this charge. But **\*the investigative judgment will declare the righteousness of the Father.** His character, as well as that of man, is on trial. In the judgment every act, of the Father and of man which have been done since creation, will be seen by all the intelligences in the universe in all its clarity. And when everything is seen in that perfect light, the Father will be acquitted of all wrongdoings, even by His enemies.

To many people the investigative Judgment is regarded as the time when it is determined who are worthy, and who are not worthy to enter heaven. They imagine all the people of earth gathered about the throne, where an examination of the books is undertaken, and the characters of men are brought into view. While there is some truth in this perception, yet such an idea does not do justice to the omniscience of the Father.\* **The Father does not need to study character in order to discern one's disposition.** He does not need enquire into a case, and to examine witnesses as men do, in order to know the facts.\* **In Proverbs 15:3 our heavenly Father watches with the pitiful, loving eye of one who knows the frailty of man's nature "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."** By His Spirit He is everywhere present.

**Psalm 139:7 "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"**

There is no place in the vast universe where the Spirit's presence is not felt.

From these two verses it is clear that the "eyes" here refer to the Father's Spirit, and to His "presence"\*

**Sister White gave more insight into this thought in Ministry of healing p417.2 1905 "The Bible shows us God in His high and holy place, not in a state of inactivity, not in silence and solitude, but surrounded by ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of holy beings, all waiting to do His will. Through these messengers He is in active communication with every part of His dominion. By His Spirit He is everywhere present. Through the agency of His Spirit and His angels He ministers to the children of men"**

When Jesus was here on earth he knew all men\* **"And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man"** as stated in John 2:25.

**The precise status of every person who has at any time lived on this earth, every act, and every thought, is known to the Father at any moment.**

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Therefore it is evident that the Judgment of the last-days is not for the purpose of helping the Father to decide as to the worthiness or unworthiness of any person. It will not reveal to the Father a single thing that He did not already know. Indeed, it will be the Father Himself who will reveal the hidden things of darkness, and make manifest the counsels of the heart through Christ.

The investigative Judgment is not only for the purpose of judging the character of men, but to cause the entire universe to see the true justice and character of the Father. What we wish to keep before our minds is the great issue controverted by the adversary satan, which is the Father's Law. The Father has infinitely more at stake than any man can possibly imagine.

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The demonstration which the Father intends to make with the last generation on earth means much, both to His people and to Himself. Can the Father's law be kept? This is a vital question. Many deny that it can be done, while some may admit that it is plausible. Yet very few are convicted that it can be kept.

Satan alleged that his successful temptation of Eve and then Adam to sin is irrefutable evidence that the Father's law cannot be kept. He challenged the Father that no one can keep the law. That it is impossible. If there be any that can do it or that have done it, let the Father demonstrate it. Where are they that keep His commandments?

Yet, to produce a people that will keep the law is the task which the Father has set for Himself, and He expects to accomplish it. The Father will quietly answer the adversary as stated in\* **Revelation 14:12 "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." The faith of Jesus is a gift of God. No man can keep all the commandments of God without the faith of Jesus, and His faith has been given to all.**

**Romans 12:3 states "...according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith"**

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When the Father commands men to keep His law, it does not serve His purpose to have just only a few men keep it; just enough to show it can be done. He does not pick outstanding men of strong purpose and superb training, and demonstrates through them what He can do.\* **It is His plan to make His requirements such that even the weakest need not fail, so that none can ever accusingly say that the Father demands that it can be done but by only a few selected ones. It is for this reason that the Father has reserved His greatest demonstration for the last generation.** This last generation bears the results of accumulated sins. If any are weak, they definitely are. If any suffer from negative inherited tendencies, they definitely do. If any have an excuse because of weakness of any kind, they certainly have. Therefore, when these can keep all the commandments, there is no excuse for any other generation not being able to keep it.\*

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But this is not enough. The Father intends in His demonstration to show, not merely that ordinary men of the last generation can successfully pass a test, such as the simple test that He gave to Adam and Eve, but that they can survive a test much more difficult than that which befalls common men. It will be a test comparable to the one job passed through, and approaching those which Jesus went through. It will test the Father's last-days faithful to the utmost.

**“You have heard of the patience of job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy” as recorded in James 5:11.**

The Lord permitted Satan to trouble Job in order that the splendor of Job's tested faith might vindicate the Father's judgment of Job's sincerity. The Father has never forsaken Job, and when Job demonstrated his fidelity the Father rewarded him many fold.

Job passed through some experiences that will be repeated in the lives of His faithful ones of the last generation.

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A serious situation arose in heaven when Satan made his charges against the Father. The accusations in reality constituted an impeachment. Many of the angels believed the charges. They ranged themselves on the side of the accuser. One third of the angels and that must have been millions, rebelled against the Father with their leader Lucifer. It was no small crisis. It threatened the very existence of The Father's government in heaven. How should The Father deal with it?

The only way the matter could be satisfactorily settled so that no question would ever arise again, was for The Father to submit His case to the ordinary rules of evidence. Was The Father's government just, or was not?

Satan said it was not.

The Father could have destroyed Satan, but that would not prove His cause just but would in fact be counted against Him. Yes indeed, “the wages of sin is death” and the Father could have instantaneously destroyed Satan and the angels that took his side. They would have paid the penalty for their sin, but in so doing there will not be an atonement to vindicate divine justice in the sight of the whole universe. There was no other way but for each side to present its evidences, produce its witnesses, and rest its case on the weight of testimony.

The picture is that of a court scene. The Father's government is at stake. Satan is the accuser; the Father Himself is the accused and is on trial. He has been charged with injustice, with requiring His creatures to do that which they cannot do, and yet punishing them for not doing

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it.\* **The law is the specific point of attack. The law is a transcript of the Father's character, so it is the Father's character that is the point controverted.**

**Romans 7:12 states "Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good"**

**Moral Law = Holy, Just, and Good**

**Father's Character = Holy, Just, and Good**

**Therefore the Moral Law = The Father's Character**

In order for the Father to sustain His contention, it is necessary for Him to show that He has not been arbitrary, that the law is not harsh and cruel in its requirement, but that it is holy, just, and good, and that man can keep it.\* **It is necessary for the Father to produce at least one man apart from Jesus who has kept all the law. In the absence of such a man, the Father loses and Satan wins.** The outcome therefore hinges on the production of one or more who keep the Father's commandments. On this He has staked His government.

While it is true that many from time to time have dedicated their lives to God and lived without sin for periods of time, Satan claims that these are special cases, as was Job's case, and do not come under the ordinary rules. He demands a clear-cut case where there can be no doubt, and where the Father has not interfered.

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The Father is ready for the challenge. He has bided His time. The supreme manifestation has been reserved until the final contest. Out of the last generation the Father will present His faithful ones\*

**The apostle Paul states in 1 Cor 1:27,28 "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; 28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are"**

Satan has claimed that those who in the past have served the Father have done so from selfish motives, He has pampered them, and that Satan has not had free access to them. If he were given full permission to press his case they also would be won over to his cause.

To silence forever Satan's charges; to make it evident that His people are serving Him from motives of loyalty without reference to reward; to clear His own name and character of the charges of injustice; and to show to the universe that all His law can be kept by the weakest of men under the most discouraging and most untoward circumstances, the Father permits Satan in the last generation to try His people to the utmost. They will be threatened, tortured,

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persecuted. They will stand face-to-face with death through the issuance of the decree to worship the beast and his image as confirmed in Revelation 13:15. But they will not yield. They are willing to die rather than to sin against the Father and man.\* **They will worship the one true God of the Bible, the Creator and Redeemer, and will not worship a false god by submitting to the impositions of the false sacredness of the spurious sunday and the false trinity dogma.**

Satan will have a greater measure of control than he has ever had before. He uses every permission he was allowed to. He knows what is at stake and he has but a short time.

To make the demonstration complete, the Father does one more thing. He hides Himself. The sanctuary in heaven is closed. The time for intercession is past, no one can enter and have access to the mercy seat.

**Revelation 15:8 states “And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple...”**

The saints cry to the Father day and night for deliverance, but He appears not to hear. The Father's chosen ones are passing through Gethsemane. They are having a little taste of Christ's experience on the cross. Seemingly they must fight their battles alone. They are passing through the time of Jacob's trouble. They must live in the sight of a holy God without an intercessor.

But though Christ has finished His intercession, the saints are still the object of the Father's love and care. Holy angels watch over them. He provides them shelter from their enemies; He provides them with food, shields them from destruction, and supplies grace and power for holy living.\* **Isaiah 33:16 states “... bread shall be given him, and his water shall be sure”**

In Psalm 91, throughout the entire 16 verses they described all of the Father's blessings and promises as His last-days faithful go through the little and great times of trouble. Yet they are still in the world, still tempted, afflicted, tormented, and persecuted by Satan and his evil agencies.

Will they stand the test? To human eyes it seems impossible. If only the Father through Christ would come to their rescue, all would be well. They are determined to resist the evil one. If need be they will die, but they will not sin. Satan has no power, and never has, to make any man sin. He can tempt, he can seduce, he can threaten; but he cannot compel. And now the Father demonstrates through the weakest of the weak that there is no excuse, and never has been any, for sinning. If men in the last generation can successfully repel Satan's attack; if they can do this with all the odds against them and with the heavenly sanctuary closed, what excuse is there for men to ever sin?

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In the last generation the Father gives the final demonstration that men can keep all His law and that they can live without sinning. He leaves nothing undone to make the demonstration complete. Satan may tempt them, he may harass and threaten them; and he does his best. But he fails. He cannot make them sin. They stand the test, and the Father puts His seal upon them.

Through the last generation of saints the Father will stand finally vindicated. Through them the Father defeats Satan and wins His case. They form a vital part of the Father's plan. They go through terrific struggles, they passed through Sunday Law, Jacob's trouble, the seven last plagues; they battle with great unseen evil powers in "high" that has its origin in heaven when Lucifer rebelled against the Father's government. But they have put their trust in the Most High, and they will not be ashamed.

They have suffered hunger and thirst, but now\* **"they shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes"** as recorded in Revelation 7:16, 17.

**Revelation 14:4 states "These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goes."** When at last the doors of the heavenly temple shall swing open, a voice will sound forth:\* **"Only the 144,000 enter this place."** – as given in **Early Writings, page 18.2.**

By faith they have gone with the Lamb into the most holy place. They will stand in the unveiled presence of the Father. \*

They will be **"before the throne of God and serve Him day and night in His temple,"** as recorded in Revelation 7:15.

We are now living in the great Day of Atonement, the investigative judgment, and the cleansing of the sanctuary. Every sin must be confessed and by faith be sent beforehand to judgment.\*

**We must ensure that every sin is confessed, that no stain of evil remains. The cleansing of the sanctuary in heaven is dependent upon the cleansing of God's people on earth.**

The anguish which the Father's faithful suffer is not dread of persecution for the truth's sake. They fear that every sin has not been repented of. That through some fault in themselves they will not be able to be counted as faithful witnesses to the vindication of the Father's character. Their single most important thought at the time is expressed in\* **Great controversy page 619.1: "If they could have the assurance of pardon they would not shrink from torture or death; but should they prove unworthy, and lose their lives because of their own defects of character, then God's holy name would be reproached."**

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In this most perilous time when the Father's people will be surrounded by enemies who are bent upon their destruction, yet they intercede for their enemies as recorded in\* **Great Controversy page 619.3: "Their faith does not fail because their prayers are not immediately answered. Though suffering the keenest anxiety, terror, and distress, they do not cease their intercessions."**

It is the goodness, forbearance, and long-suffering of God that lead men to repentance, and so shall all these attributes be manifested in the blameless character of His last generation faithful servants towards their enemies.\* **The Apostle Paul confirms this principle in Romans 12:21: "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."**

How important it is that the Father's last generation people be holy and without blame! In them every sin must be purged out, so that they will be able to stand in the sight of a Holy God and live with the devouring fire.

The sinners asked fearfully in\* **Isaiah 33:14: "Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?"**

The answer as stated in Isaiah 33:15,16 is just this **"He that walks righteously, and speaking uprightly... he shall dwell on high"**

The Father has been judged by His people. Their unfaithfulness has brought dishonor upon Him. Now He is vindicated. The hour of His judgment is come, and His faithful witnesses bear true testimony to His wonderful love and great salvation. Henceforth none but His enemies, who hate Him simply because He is good, can speak a word against Him.

**As the last generation faithful witnesses come into harmony with His own life, He is free to work with power. In the past, he has been bound because His people have been unlike Him, devoid of His character, devoid of His Holy spirit, and He could not work mightily through them. Now there is nothing to hinder His full cooperation with His faithful remnant, and the full tide of divine life, the life of His life, flows with mighty power through His people. They go forth upon their work conquering and to conquer.**

It is a wonderful privilege for this last generation people to help clear the Father's name by their testimony. It is wonderful that we are permitted to testify for Him.

When Israel of old served strange gods or idols, the Father could not manifest His power in their behalf. In these last-days neither could the Father manifest His awesome power in our behalf when we serve and worship a false god, such as in the mark of the beast, and the false god-the-eternal-spirit. Only when one serves and worships the one true God and His only begotten son, then can one be willing to be a true witness for His glory.

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May we be true witnesses indeed, to the one true God of the Bible and to His Only-Begotten son, testifying what the Father has done for us!

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Take home message

The great question always has been: Is the Father just, or are Satan's accusations that the Father's law cannot be kept true?

The verses below speak for it. The Father's character is vindicated in the sight of the whole universe.

At the end of the controversy the angel of the waters shall say as in Revelation 16:5 "And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus."

Another angel says in verse 7 "And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments"

Those who have been victorious over the beast, his image, his mark, and the number of his name shall sing the song of Moses as in Revelation 15:3 "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints"