

Harvest The Final Harvest

Reading: [Acts 17:29-31](#)

Introduction

- We use the word final for so many things we generally think of it as just another part of life.
 - You have your final exams. For the semester or the year or for life?
 - You have the finals in sports. We all know, happens once a year.
 - There will be a final that is the last one forever, the final final.
 - Maybe we could call it **The Final Harvest**

[James 5:7-8](#) Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

- When Jesus comes again, there will be no more finals. It will be the final final.

1. We Cannot Allow Pride To Get In The Way Of It.

- We must prepare for it on His terms
 - Often, if we don't get what we want, we don't accept the final answer, we protest and try to change things. Maybe we get a petition to give to the leaders to show the final answer is wrong.
 - When Jesus comes, it will be the final answer and there will be no changing it.

[James 4:6-10](#) But He gives more grace. Therefore, He says: *"God resists the proud, But, gives grace to the humble."* Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and *your* joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

- Sin is a condition or behavior that is in direct violation of God's will
 - Why do we disobey Him? Because we have that desire.
 - How do we overcome that desire? first humility, then submission
 - God will have the final answer to our destination, it might be wise to consider what He has to say about things.

2. We Must Trust He Really Wants Us To Succeed.

- God is not looking for ways to set us up for failure.

[Ezekiel 18:23](#) Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord GOD, *"and not that he should turn from his ways and live?"*

[1 Timothy 2:4](#) who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

[John 3:17](#) For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

[2 Peter 3:9](#) The Lord is ...not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

- It doesn't have to be a day of doom
- God wants us to be saved. God does NOT want us to perish
- God did not prepare a place of torment for us, it was for the Devil and his angels. [Matthew 25:41](#)
- God prepares a place for us but it is with Him [John 14:1-6](#)

3. It Will Be The Final Harvest

- There is a final judgement

[Acts 17:29-31](#) Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising. Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

- We automatically go to the condemnation side of this
- Notice two things made in this passage:
 - ◆ Judge in righteousness by the Man whom he has ordained
--Jesus is the man
 - ◆ --Jesus came to save not to condemn

[John 1:17](#) For the law was given through Moses, *but* **grace and truth** came through Jesus Christ.

- ◆ Assurance by Raising Him from the dead
--Why did he mention the resurrection?
--It was the final sign that Jesus is ordained to free us from our sins. Ordained—determined, appointed
- What did James say to do to prepare for this? three simple things:

[James 5:7-12](#)

- 1. Be Patient
- 2. Do not grumble against each other
- 3. just keep your word