

“Charmed into Righteousness: The Fairest Judge”

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□ The Judge

- *Steps to Christ*: “Satan [has led humanity] to conceive of God as a being whose chief attribute is stern justice—one who is a severe _____, a harsh, exacting creditor. He pictured the Creator as a being who is watching with jealous eye to discern the errors and mistakes of men, that He may visit judgments upon them. It was to _____ this dark shadow, by revealing to the world the infinite love of God, that Jesus came to live among men. The Son of God came from heaven to make manifest the Father.” (10-11)
- John 1:14, 18; 3:16; 14:5-10
 - Kevin J. Vanhoozer: “The son’s humanity is the ultimate form of God’s self-presentation, Jesus is God’s definitive word and in his person and history corresponds to what it is that makes God _____.” (In John Peckham, *The Love of God: A Canonical Model* 61)
 - John Peckham: “Depictions of divine compassion in the Old Testament and New Testament are strikingly similar to that manifested by Christ in the Gospels. Thus Leon Morris contends that ‘Christ’s action is _____ action. Christ’s love is _____ love.’” (*The Love of God* 64)

□ The Judged

- The protagonist: “Mary had been looked upon as a great sinner, but Christ knew the circumstances that had shaped her life. He might have extinguished every spark of hope in her soul, but He did not. It was He who had lifted her from despair and ruin. Seven _____ she had heard His rebuke of the demons that controlled her heart and mind. She had heard His strong cries to the Father in her behalf. She knew how offensive is sin to His unsullied purity, and in His strength she had overcome.” (*Desire of Ages* 568)
 - “When to human eyes her case appeared _____, Christ saw in Mary capabilities for good. He saw the better traits of her character. The plan of redemption has invested humanity with great possibilities, and in Mary these possibilities were to be realized. Through His grace she became a partaker of the divine nature. The one who had fallen, and whose mind had been a habitation of demons, was brought very near to the Saviour in fellowship and ministry.” (Ibid)
- The antagonist: “When Judas joined the disciples, he was not insensible to the beauty of the character of Christ. He felt the influence of that divine power which was drawing souls to the Saviour. . . . In connecting this man with Himself, He placed him where he might, day by day, be brought in contact with the outflowing of His own unselfish love. If he would open his _____ to Christ, divine grace would banish the demon of selfishness, and even Judas might become a subject of the kingdom of God.” (*Desire of Ages* 294)
 - “When he came into association with Jesus, he had some _____ traits of character that might have been made a blessing to the church. If he had been willing to wear the yoke of Christ, he might have been among the chief of the apostles; but he hardened his heart when his defects were pointed out, and in pride and rebellion chose his own selfish ambitions, and thus unfitted himself for the work that God would have given him to do.” (Ibid)
- John 12:1-8

- “[Jesus’] heart was crying, How can I give thee up? The constraining power of that love was felt by Judas. When the Saviour’s hands were bathing those soiled feet, and wiping them with the towel, the heart of Judas thrilled through and through with the impulse then and there to confess his sin. But he would not humble himself. He hardened his heart against repentance; and the old impulses, for the moment put aside, again controlled him.” (Desire of Ages 645)
- “The Saviour did not reproach His betrayer. He knew that Judas did not repent; his confession was forced from his guilty soul by an awful sense of condemnation and a looking for of judgment, but he felt no deep, heartbreaking grief that he had betrayed the spotless Son of God, and denied the Holy One of Israel. Yet Jesus spoke no word of condemnation. He looked pityingly upon Judas, and said, For this hour came I into the world.” (Desire of Ages 722)

□ **The Judgment**

- John 5:22—“The Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the _____.”
- 2 Corinthians 5:10—“For we must all appear before the judgement seat of _____, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”
- 1 John 2:1-2
 - He who is the Savior of the world and the Judge of the world is the Advocate of the world, the _____ of the human race.
 - *Steps to Christ*: “We shall _____ have to bow down and weep at the feet of Jesus because of our shortcomings and mistakes, but we are not to be discouraged. Even if we are overcome by the enemy, we are not cast off, not forsaken and rejected of God. No; Christ is at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.” (64)

“The Judge is on your side!”

judge, remove, God, God’s, God’s, times, hopeless, heart, precious, Son, Christ, Defense Attorney, often