

International Bible Lesson

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further

Matthew 25:31-46

Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

1. Jesus has told us some of His plans upon His return to earth as our glorious King. Who are those who will rejoice when he comes?

The sheep, the righteous, those who love Jesus as their Lord and Savior and show it by the way they treat others.

2. For what group did God prepare the place of eternal fire for eternal punishment?

The devil and his angels.

3. Based upon the way they act and have acted, with which group will the goats be the happiest: the sheep or other goats? Which group forever?

The goats. The goats.

4. What might you say to someone who says they do not believe in hell, and a loving God would never send anyone to hell?

That Jesus and the Bible teach there is a hell and God will send people there who have rejected God and the Way of Salvation. Those who go to hell have rejected heaven and the way people want to live and will live in heaven. That a loving God knows the unrighteous would be miserable in heaven and they would make others miserable too. A loving God will send them where they will be the happiest, far away from God and those who love God for God and those who love God have and would make them miserable in heaven by their love and righteousness, but they will suffer from being far away from God and those who love God. They will be with people like themselves and make each other miserable.

5. When Christians help other Christians in need, how are they helping Jesus? How is Jesus helping those in need?

Jesus indwells Christians. When a Christian helps someone, Jesus is helping them. When a Christian receives help from another Christian, Jesus is helping them.

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