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For you, will that day be a day of thanksgiving, or a day of horror?

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THANKFULNESS WHEN GOD OPENS GRAVES

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(editing by Kathy Boynton)

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Jesus had just healed a man who'd been crippled for thirty-eight years. He had done this on the Sabbath day. The religious leaders who hated Jesus said that, by "working" to heal on the Sabbath, He had violated Sabbath law. In response, Jesus said to them:

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." (John 5:24-29)

Jesus was effectively claiming his total authority

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as God the Son. He points out that, even as He speaks, the spiritually dead are hearing "the voice of the Son of God." How they respond is eternally significant. He has authority to heal on the Sabbath day and shall demonstrate His authority as final judge on judgment day. Ironically, the religious leaders had just seen that authority in action and had rejected it!

In effect, Jesus was warning these unbelieving religious leaders about what their eternal predicament would be on judgment day. He told them that He has authority to judge all of mankind on that coming final judgment day. This will include all whose bodies were already in the grave.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving Day, many gather with friends and family to enjoy a pleasant "Thanksgiving" meal. I wonder how many of earth's people shall be thankful for His salvation on the coming day of judgment. For those who've turned from sin and followed Jesus Christ, it shall be the greatest day of thanksgiving ever experienced. That thanksgiving shall last forever. However, for those who continue to ignore or reject Christ, that day

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