

The Particular or Personal Judgment

Christian teaching about the Judgment of the soul after death

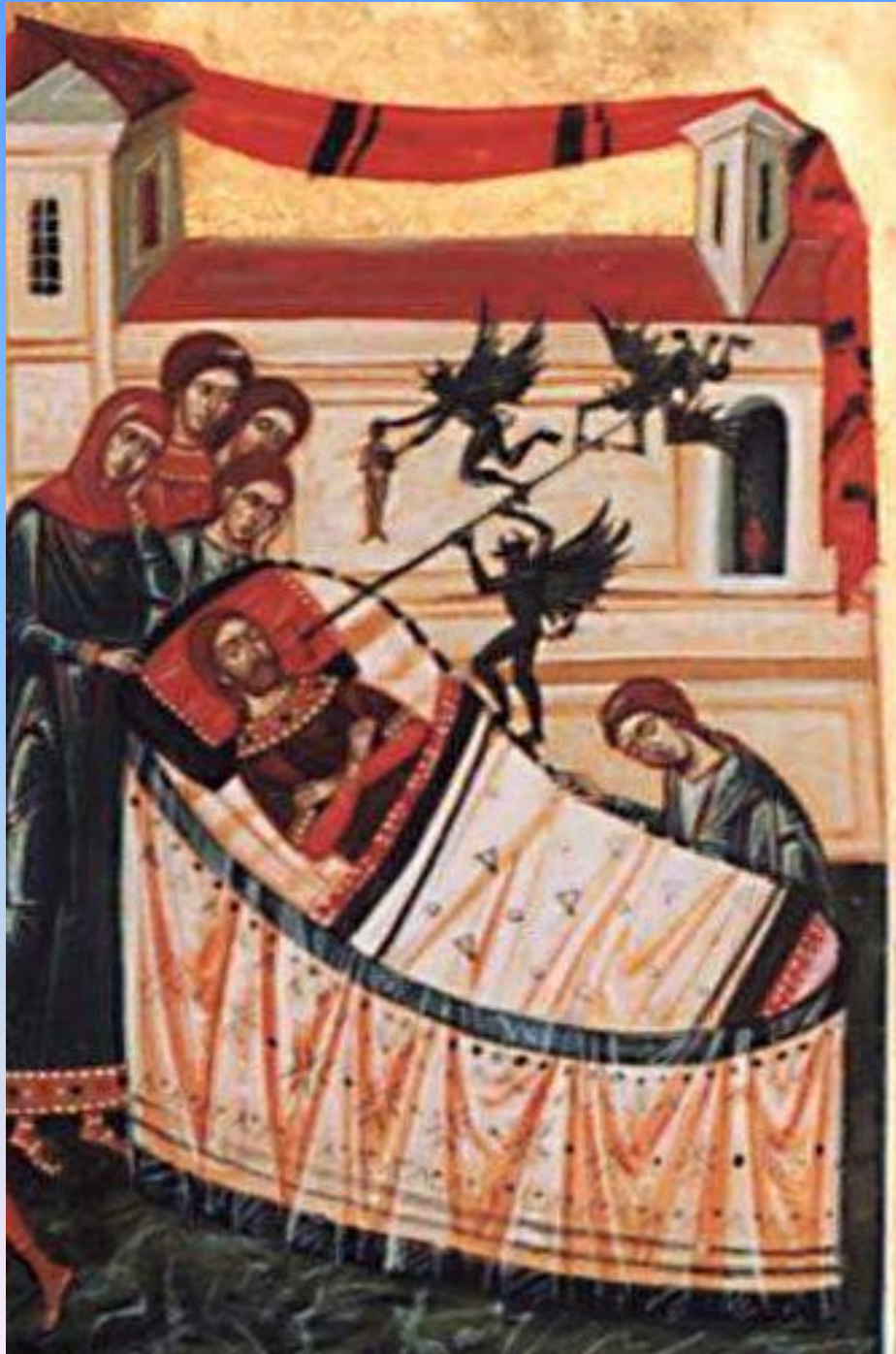


People have become mortal as a result of ancestral sin.

- The body dies at the time appointed by God.
- The soul never dies.



What I am, you will be too.
What you are, I was myself.



The soul separates from the body and begins its journey of ascension to Heaven, towards the Divine Throne where it will be judged.

The soul is met by the **devils** whom he has served through passions or by the **guardian angel** with whom he collaborated in his life through virtues and good deeds.



The souls of the **saints**, those who have endeavored for salvation and are sanctified, are greeted by Christ Himself.





Forty days after death, every soul is presented before the Divine Throne to the **Personal Judgment**, where it **will be asked about everything he has done**.

Devils will try to stop him on the way, reminding him the evil deeds of his life and frightening him that he will not escape the eternal torments.

The **angel** will encourage him, reminding him the good deeds, repentance and hope in God.

- teaching about the
"**Aerial Toll-Houses**" -

The guardian angel and the saints, whom the man honored in his lifetime, **will defend the soul** in front of God from the accusations that the devils will bring, showing the reasons / excuses why he has done evil so that he can be judged leniently / forgiven by the Judge, or the good deeds and the repentance through which he tried to repair the evil done.

Devils will blame man for all the wrongs / sins made and not repented, and will demand rights of dominion over him and that man should receive punishment in eternal torments.



God will put in balance the thoughts, words, and deeds of man, both good and bad. Depending on which side the balance will lean, that will be his **sentence**: a reward in Heaven or a punishment in Hell.



Personal Judgment

- **Particular**: each person is judged personally, separately, for what he did for himself and for others.
- **Secret**: known only by the soul of the judged man, God, his witnesses and accusers (the angel and the devils).
- **Righteous**: correct, “what goes around, comes around“, according to the divine promise - *"what measure you will measure with, the same measure shall be used unto you."*

The **Sentence** from the Particular Judgment is **temporary** :
valid until the time of the Last Judgment, when the state of the soul **will worsen or ease**
according to the consequences of its actions on his descendants (after death), or the
forgiveness / unforgiveness given by other people.



After death, we will all be brought to the Judgment by God.

We should always take care of our salvation by doing good deeds.

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When we realize we did something wrong, we should ask for forgiveness and straighten our ways immediately, because we do not know when we'll die and will be brought to judgement.

Let us always be ready for judgment.

Let us pray as often as possible *“for a good defense before the awesome judgment seat of Christ”* (Divine Liturgy).



Let us make friends with the saints / angels so they will intercede for us at the judgment.

Let us live in peace with all people and love them; those who love us will pray for us after we die.



Let us pray for those who fell asleep, so that God may be merciful towards us at the judgment.



After he dies, man cannot do anything for his salvation, but can only hope for the mercy of his fellows and of God.

