

WE NEED TO BE READY TO MEET THE LORD AS OUR JUDGE *Ac 17:30,31*

Village Church – Hikurangi – 16/03/08 – ekb

"We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ." *Rom 14:10, Mat 12:36,37.*

"Each of us shall give account of himself to God." *Rom 14:12, Rom 2:2,6,11,12,16.*

This will be the most important day of our existence.

And we need to be ready.

How can we be ready to meet the Lord and stand before Him.

1. **New Start - Be born again,** *Jn 3:3,5, 1Pet 1:23*, forgiven of all sins, *Rev 1:5, 1Pet 2:24, 1Pet 3:18*, believe in Jesus Christ, *Ac 16:31, 1Cor 15:3*, get right with God, *Rom 5:1*, confess and forsake all sin, *1Jn 1:9, 2Tim 2:22, Pro 28:13*.
2. **Separation from the old life to the new life.** Be baptised into Jesus Christ and put on Christ, *Ac 2:38, Gal 3:27, Rom 6:3, Mat 28:19*, and be baptised into His death, burial, resurrection, *Rom 6:1-14*, leaving the old life of living for self to live for Christ in His power and Word. *Eph 4:22-24, Col 3:9,10, Col 1:13,14*.
3. **Fulness of God's new life. Baptism with the Holy Spirit.** Go on to live a life of separation from sin and fullness of the life of Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, *Heb 12:14, Ac 2:38,39, Gal 5:16, Rom 6:6,11,14*, by faith in the Word of God, *Rom 1:17, Eph 2:8, Rom 10:17*.
4. **New purpose of life and work – building God's Kingdom.** Find God's purpose, plan and ministry for your life and fulfil it. *Col 3:22-24, Col 3:17, Rom 12:5-8, 1Cor 12:7-11, Eph 4:11, Col 4:17, Ac 26:19, Jn 2:5*. (includes being a mum, a dad, husband or a wife, *Mal 2:14,15, Eph 5:25, Eph 5:22*.) As we seek God each day through reading His Word and prayer, He will reveal to us His plan for our lives. *Jer 29:11 NIV*. By faithfully serving God in each opportunity that arises, God will fulfil our destiny.
5. **Gather the harvest.** Actively witness to the unsaved around you, joyfully, naturally, (not legalistically), in faith, by the power of the Holy Spirit. *Ac 1:8, Mat 10:27, Is 44:8, Lk 5:10, Mat 4:19, Ac 18:9,10, Ac 8:4*.
6. **Keep growing in God and refuse to give up.** Keep seeking God in prayer, reading His Word, in praise and thanks, encouraging and blessing others. *Lk 18:1, 1Thes 5:17, Ps 150, 1Cor 11:23-26*. Order your daily programme to have time with God. Gather with the saints to worship God and hear His Word.
7. **Caring for others.** Care for the poor and needy, *Mat 25:35,36, Ac 10:38, Jam 1:27*. Remember the sick, the lonely, the elderly, those in prison and others in need. Be Jesus' hands and feet to care for those in need.