

productive land will certainly learn." (Isaiah 26:9) During Judgment Day all the people will learn about Jehovah, and they will be given every opportunity to obey and serve him.

⁷ It is under such paradise conditions that Jesus Christ and his 144,000 associate kings will judge humankind. People who choose to serve Jehovah will be in a position to receive everlasting life. But, even under these best of circumstances, some will refuse to serve God. As the Scriptures say: "Though the wicked one should be shown favor, he simply will not learn righteousness. In the land of straightforwardness he will act unjustly." (Isaiah 26:10) So after being given full opportunity to change their ways and to learn righteousness, such wicked ones will be destroyed. Some will be put to death even before Judgment Day ends. (Isaiah 65:20) They will not be permitted to remain to corrupt or spoil the paradise earth.

⁸ Will it be more difficult for some of the resurrected dead to learn and practice righteousness than it will be for others? When Jesus Christ was on earth, he showed that it would be. Most of the persons to whom he and his disciples preached

7. During Judgment Day, what will happen to those who choose to serve God and to those who refuse to do so?

8. How did Jesus show that during Judgment Day it would be more difficult for some to practice righteousness than it would be for others?

For whom will it be harder on Judgment Day?



Those destroyed in Sodom and Gomorrah

did not listen. They rejected Jesus as the Messiah, even after hearing his preaching and seeing him perform miracles. When sending out his disciples to preach, Jesus said of a city that would reject their message: "Truly I say to you, it will be more enduring for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on Judgment Day than for that city."—Matthew 10:15.

⁹ By saying this, Jesus showed that at least some of the unrighteous people of ancient Sodom and Gomorrah will be present on earth during Judgment Day. Although they had been very immoral, we can expect that some of them will be resurrected. (Genesis 19:1-26) Jehovah in his mercy will bring them back so that they will have an opportunity to learn about his purposes. But Jesus' words also show that some of the unrighteous ones to whom he and his disciples personally preached will be present during Judgment Day. They, too, will be resurrected and be given further opportunity to learn God's purposes. For whom will it be more difficult to accept Christ as king at that time? For the people of ancient Sodom or for those who had rejected the preaching of Jesus and his disciples?

¹⁰ It will be more difficult for those who personally rejected Jesus. Speaking of Capernaum, one of the cities where he performed miracles, Jesus said: "If the powerful works that took place in you had taken place in Sodom, it would have remained until this very day. Consequently I say to you people, It will be more enduring for the land of Sodom on Judgment Day than for you." (Matthew 11:22-24) Yes, during Judgment Day it will be even more difficult for those from Capernaum to admit their mistakes and to accept and serve Christ as king than it will be for the people of ancient Sodom to learn righteousness.

¹¹ So it will be easier for certain "unrighteous" resurrected ones to learn about God and serve him than it will be for certain other "unrighteous" ones. (Matthew 12:41, 42) What, then, about the "righteous" who are resurrected—persons such as Abraham,

9, 10. (a) What unrighteous people will be resurrected during Judgment Day? (b) Why will it be more difficult for some unrighteous ones than for other unrighteous ones?

11. Why will it be easier on Judgment Day for the "righteous" than for any of the "unrighteous"?