

# Sermon Series – “Why I Believe”

## **Part 16 – “From Induction to Imminent Return”**

**Speaker:** *Pastor Delthony L. Gordon* **Church:** *Beavercreek SDA – 11/06/2021*

**Scripture Reading:** Hebrews 9:23-28

Ever since the disappointment of 1844, many have questioned why Christ has not yet returned, even to the point of doubting whether He will, while others have been \_\_\_\_\_ in knowing what Christ has been doing in Heaven and why it is taking Him so long. When the disappointed believers made careful \_\_\_\_\_ into the Scriptures, their knowledge and understanding of Christ’s end-time work \_\_\_\_\_ (*Daniel 12:4*) and they rediscovered the two-fold \_\_\_\_\_ ministry He was to accomplish. When He ascended to the heavenly courts, He was \_\_\_\_\_ as our High Priest as the Mediator between God and man, thus abolishing the role of earthly priests. Then, at the end of the long prophetic period known as the 2300 days, He embarked on the second phase of His ministry, known as the Cleansing of the Sanctuary, an \_\_\_\_\_ Judgment, that is preparatory to His return. How \_\_\_\_\_ is it that we grasp this teaching of Scripture in light of Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_ return? May the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts with refreshing \_\_\_\_\_ from His word.

### The Investigative Judgment

1. When was the cleansing of the Sanctuary \_\_\_\_\_? *Heb. 9:6-7 & Various Texts*
2. What is it that is \_\_\_\_\_ in Heaven and needs cleansing? *Heb. 9:23 & Various Texts*
3. For whom does God \_\_\_\_\_ the investigative judgment? *Rev. 11:1-2; 1 Pet. 4:17*
4. What parable of Christ \_\_\_\_\_ the nature of this investigation? *Matt. 22:1-14*
5. Why should we \_\_\_\_\_ each other to send our sins to judgment now? *1 Tim. 5:24*

When Jesus is within the sanctuary above, when we have an Advocate in the courts of heaven, how earnestly should the corresponding work of intercession be going on upon the earth! While we may see and should sense the guilt of sin, **we are to appreciate the mercy of God through the atonement.** The Lord has promised that because of the propitiatory sacrifice He will, if we repent, certainly forgive our iniquities. Now, while Christ is pleading in our behalf, while the Father accepts the merits of the atoning Sacrifice, let us ask and we shall receive. Let all confess their sins and let them go beforehand to judgment that they may be forgiven for Christ’s sake, and that pardon may be written against their names.

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*May our hearts be open to our Intercessor in the Heavenly Sanctuary!*