

The final judgement

By Bev Dickeson, 1993.



Bible reference: Matthew 25:31-46

Characters: An adult and a child

Props: Large Bible, present containing sandwiches, orange juice, street map, hat, list of prisoners

Adult enters carrying large Bible, looking smug and self-righteous. Opens Bible and reads it. Child enters carrying present.

CHILD: [looking at adult] What are you doing?

ADULT: [self-righteously] I'm being a good Christian, studying God's word, meditating on it, contemplating it, striving to be holy and righteous.

CHILD: Oh.

ADULT: [noticing present] What have you got there?

CHILD: A present

ADULT: Hmmmm. I see that. [Trying a different tack] But who is it for?

CHILD: Jesus.

ADULT: [Surprised] Oh ... I see ... Er ... what is it?

CHILD: Some sandwiches, orange juice, a street map, a hat, and a list of prisoners in the Adelaide Jail [or other jail].

ADULT: [indulgently] My goodness. That's some present. Are you sure Jesus is going to like it?

CHILD: Oh yes. He told me.

ADULT: What? How?

CHILD: In the Bible.

ADULT: Oh. [To audience] I can't remember reading that bit. [To child] Well, can you please explain to me why you are giving him a sandwich?

CHILD: Sure. Jesus said, whenever you give food to someone who needs it, it's like giving it to him. And there's a kid in my class who hardly ever has any lunch, so I'm taking him a honey sandwich. He loves honey.

ADULT: Oh really. Hmmmm. [curious] So, is the orange juice for that kid too?

CHILD: No, that's for the man next door. He's sick, and Mum said orange juice is good for sick people. I always have to drink it when I've got a cold, so I figured Mr Brown might need it too.

ADULT: And Jesus will get it as well?

CHILD: Oh yes, because when you give it to someone else who needs it, it's like giving it to Jesus.

ADULT: [*indicating street map*] What about the street map?

CHILD: Oh, that's so Johnny's mum will know where I live.

ADULT: [*puzzled*] Johnny?

CHILD: Yeah, he's new at our school and he's lonely. So I got my mum to ask his mum if he could come over after school. And this will show her where we live.

ADULT: [*jokingly*] And Jesus too, I suppose.

CHILD: Oh yes. Jesus said that when you welcome lonely people in your house, it's like asking him too.

ADULT: [*pointing at hat*] The hat?

CHILD: Sally.

ADULT: Sally?

CHILD: She really wants one, but her Mum can't buy her one, so I asked my Mum if I could give her one of mine.

ADULT: [*rolling eyes at audience*] Don't tell me – Jesus is getting a hat too.

CHILD: [*happily*] He sure is.

ADULT: Now ... [*picks up list*] I'm not sure about this last one – a list of prisoners. There are some pretty nasty people in prisons.

CHILD: True, but you've gotta look at them through Jesus' eyes. When you do, you see people how Jesus sees them, and you realise Jesus loves them too.

ADULT: But are you going to visit them?

CHILD: No, I'm not allowed to, but I'm going to pray real hard for them. [*Takes list*] I'm going to put this next to my bed so I remember. [*Packs up parcel again*] I'd better go, 'cos I've got lots of things to do. Bye. [*Exits*]

ADULT: [*smiling indulgently*] Kids! What do they know? [*Exits, reading Bible*]