

Arcanum: 20

Zodiac Affinity: Pluto

Element: Fire

As a “Yes” or “No” Card: Yes. But you should trust your instincts.

## Overview

The Judgement card is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the Major Arcana cards and shows naked men, women, and children rising from their graves, arms outspread and looking up into the sky. (The dead are rising to have their lives judged on the day of resurrection, complete within the Christian symbology of Gabriel's Horn.) Above, Archangel Gabriel – the Messenger of God – blows his trumpet. The people respond to his call, ready to be judged and to find out if they will be accepted into the heavens or not. IN the background is an extensive mountain range, signifying the insurmountable obstacles and the impossibility of avoiding judgement.



## Keywords

*Liberation - Judgement - Inner Calling - Transformation - Absolution - Rebirth -  
Absolution*

“Hearing a call that pulls you out of an old, dead situation into a new one, often with a spiritual aspect. Being invited to free yourself and live at a higher level.” -Tarot of Pagan Cats, Lo Scarabeo.

## Key Phrases

- I. Accounting for past actions
- II. Revaluation and revival
- III. Dropping old values, embracing new ones
- IV. Accepting things the way they are
- V. There is no one to blame, not even yourself

## General

The Judgement card signifies decision and the outcome of choice.

There are two types of judgment: one where we judge others unkindly or unfairly by saying things like “you are no good” or “I disapprove of your actions”; and the other kind which does not condemn, but attempts to weigh up the matter to find out the truth. When we draw



Judgement in a layout it signifies the latter – that we make choices and do so without blaming ourselves or others.

It implies that you can liberate yourself from old attitudes, whether, towards a lover, your family or patterns of behavior which haven't been right for you. You have new insight into how to handle your relationships. It is fine to shrug your shoulders and think, “what's the point?” but this is your chance to start afresh, let go of the past and stop feeling guilty for your actions.

The judgement card is calling you to rise up and embrace a higher level of consciousness for the service of your Highest Good. You are experiencing a spiritual awakening and realizing that you are destined for so much more. This is your cosmic up-leveling! You hear the call and are ready to act. Tune in to a higher frequency. Let go of your old self and step into this newest version of who you really are.

This card often indicates that you need to make a life-changing decision, but unlike those associated with the logical Justice card, this decision requires a blend of intuition and intellect. You may be at a crossroads, aware that any choice you make will bring a significant change with long-lasting effects. Tune in to your Higher Self, trust your judgement and know you are on the right path. If you still need clarity on the situation, look to your past and life lessons to guide you.

Judgement pops up in a tarot reading when you are close to reaching a significant stage in your journey. You have reviewed and evaluated your past experiences and have learned from them. All the pieces of the puzzle of your life are finally coming together to form one, unified picture of your life story. This integration has healed deep wounds, and you are now able to put the past behind you. You have found your absolution, having cleared any wrongdoings or regrets, and releasing any guilt or sadness about the past. This purging process will leave you refreshed and ready to take on any new challenges.

This card also suggests that you may find comfort in sharing your struggles with others within a group environment. There will be others who have experienced something similar

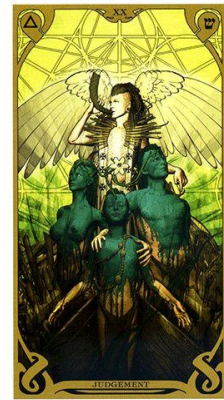
and who can show you the way to freedom from your troubles. Let them guide you and help you – rise together.

## Relationships

Judgement in regards to work or education reminds you not to put off tasks until the night before. Plan your week and achieve balance. If you have an inspection at work or a test at school, take care with it. Be sure you don't make any silly mistakes because of nerves. Find out as much as you can, talking to others who have been through the same thing will help, even if you aren't nervous.

In regards to finances, Judgement is generally a good sign if you've been keeping track of your money. Just be cautious generally and make sensible purchases. If you've run into a rut | regards to money, look where it's being spent. Is there anything unaccounted for?

In romance, it might mean that a deal breaker scenario is coming up. Your partner might get a new job somewhere else and ask you to come with them, or something even more difficult will show itself. You might learn something new about your partner's past that hasn't come to light for whatever reason. Likewise, if you've been keeping anything secret from your partner, be sure that it will eventually surface itself. You shouldn't hide anything from your partner.



Judgement in regards to friendship means you shouldn't jump to conclusions when you find out how a friend has acted. They might not have been themselves, but they also may have. Take their character into account when thinking about confronting them. Do you need this person in your life? If you're looking for new friends, go outside your comfort zone, into new interests and groups. Join a taster session. The key is to meet new people from a new background.

In areas pertaining to Health, judgement reminds you to let go of the past, mentally. You might have been different when you were growing up. Don't let that define you now. Physically, things should be either okay, or on the upswing. Don't expect a sudden illness, and don't go overboard. A little treat, maybe a bit more than you usually do though, is fine now.

Judgement in spirituality and religion means you should be open and honest now. Try new things and get some new experiences in. If you've had a preconception of something, now is the time to challenge it.

## †ast

In the past positioning of a spread, it means there might have been an event in the past where you have jumped to conclusions, and whatever the outcome, it is still affecting you now. It could have been an emotional outburst that was unwarranted. It may also mean that everything you've done to work up to this point is going to be forgotten. This isn't always a bad thing; you are closing that chapter of your life and turning over a new leaf.



## †resent

Judgement, in the present, means that you may be called to talk about your actions soon. Have you been acting in secret? People may know. Likewise, you may know someone has been trying to keep something hidden and now is the time to approach them about it. If it feels like you're doing something wrong in regards to a person, own up to it before they find out.

## †uture

You will have to make decisions by facing up to the facts rather than avoiding them. With Judgement you can at last get off the fence, make a choice and wake up to a new possibility. There is a feeling of weight being taken off of your shoulders and the ability to forgive yourself or someone else for past mistakes.

The choices you have made now are going to have a noticeable effect on the future. Even the smallest decision can affect the future in more ways than we will ever know. It's also the choices we don't make that can matter. Remember not to put off or procrastinate in the meantime. Judgement day can come at any time, so you have to keep true to yourself until it does.

## In Reverse

*Guilt - Feeling Judged - Self-Doubt - Inner Critic - Ignoring the Call*

You are likely to feel guilty in some way for something or feel judged by others. Perhaps it's timely to think about whether you are in the wrong or whether you are taking too much responsibility for someone else's happiness?

Look within yourself; often, we live our lives without introspection, and it can take somebody else to look at us and help us see where we are going wrong. It can help to practice yourself.

Sometimes, you know you are doing something morally wrong, but you ignore it. In the long run, this will not benefit anybody, especially you. To grow as a person, you need to account for your infractions on the universe. Judge yourself before others. None of us can act as the bastion for the moral right, but we can keep improving ourselves, and keep helping others to improve.

This card DEMANDS a period of reflection and self-evaluation. Through meditation or quiet contemplation, you may arrive at a deep understanding of the universal themes weaving throughout your life and what you can do or change to avoid these situations. You may have kept them secret or hidden because you fear how others may judge you. To clear these past mistakes and regrets, and any associated guilt or shame, work on your self-forgiveness, self-acceptance, self-love, and release and freedom.

Judgement reversed often appears when the universe is trying to send you a message and invite you to something bigger, but you're not listening. Maybe you're afraid of the sacrifice you will need to make to heed the call, or you're worried you are not ready to step into a more prominent role and just want to play it safe. You are doing your best to pretend you didn't receive it and are carrying on with your daily life, hoping it will go away. But let's be honest – the 'call' never goes away; it just gets louder and louder until you pay attention. It's time to push past your inner fears and self-doubt, and trust that the universe has your back. This is happening for a reason.



Sometimes the reversed Judgement indicates your inner critic is coming through, loud and clear. You may doubt yourself or tell yourself negative messages. This is impeding you being able to fulfill your highest potential and be your best self. To overcome your inner critic, see it as a separate part of yourself (give it a name), hear it out and acknowledge its fear, and offer assurances that everything will be just fine. With focused discipline, you can break the cycle of self-criticism and replace it with more positive messages of what is possible.