

## Grace, Holiness and Judgment

October 25, 2015

### 2 Corinthians 5:9-11

9 **WHEREFORE WE LABOUR** (*ambitious, make our aim, strive earnestly*), **that, whether present or absent, WE MAY BE ACCEPTED** (*well-pleasing, acceptable*) **OF HIM.**

10 **FOR WE MUST ALL APPEAR BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST; THAT EVERY ONE MAY RECEIVE THE THINGS DONE IN HIS BODY, ACCORDING TO THAT HE HATH DONE, WHETHER IT BE GOOD OR BAD.**

11 **KNOWING THEREFORE THE TERROR OF THE LORD, WE PERSUADE MEN;** but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

The **JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST** is the judgment of believers, which occurs following the rapture of the Church. If you appear in the Judgment Seat of Christ, you are eternally safe, heaven is your eternal abode. This judgment is the "Judgment of the Believer's Works."

*1 Corinthians 3:11-15*

*Romans 14:10-12*

*1 Thessalonians 2:19-20*

*Revelation 22:12*

The **GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT** is the "Judgment of the Living Dead." It is the judgment of the unbelievers, the eternally lost and damned. Christians are exempt.

*Revelation 20:11-15*

**Grace in no way diminishes God's requirement for holiness; in fact, grace enables us to be holy. The same grace that pursues us with God's forgiveness and mercy is the same grace that requires and enables us to live holy lives. Under grace, we are more accountable for holiness, not less.**

*Romans 6:1-3*

*1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*

*2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*

*3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*

*Titus 2:11-14*

*11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,*

*12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;*

*13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;*

14 *Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

How is it possible to live a holy life and please God?

1. **Asceticism** - disciplining and abusing the flesh into submission?
2. **Religious Disciplines** - will-worship, self-control, salvation by works?
3. **Deliverance from Demons** - sometimes to the extreme of denying depravity of flesh
4. **Psychology** - self-help principles mingled with Biblical truth?

## 2 Corinthians 3:1–18

1 Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you?

2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

3 **FORASMUCH AS YE ARE MANIFESTLY DECLARED TO BE THE EPISTLE OF CHRIST MINISTERED BY US, WRITTEN (*engrapho* - engrave, inscribe, write in) NOT WITH INK, BUT WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD; NOT IN TABLES OF STONE, BUT IN FLESHY TABLES OF THE HEART.**

4 And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward:

5 **NOT THAT WE ARE SUFFICIENT OF OURSELVES TO THINK ANY THING AS OF OURSELVES; BUT OUR SUFFICIENCY IS OF GOD;**

6 **WHO ALSO HATH MADE US ABLE MINISTERS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT; NOT OF THE LETTER, BUT OF THE SPIRIT: FOR THE LETTER KILLETH, BUT THE SPIRIT GIVETH LIFE.**

7 But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away:

8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious?

9 **FOR IF THE MINISTRATION OF CONDEMNATION BE GLORY, MUCH MORE DOTH THE MINISTRATION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS EXCEED IN GLORY.**

10 For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth.

11 For if that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious.

12 Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:

13 And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished:

14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.

15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.

16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away.

17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

18 **BUT WE ALL, WITH OPEN FACE BEHOLDING AS IN A GLASS THE GLORY OF THE LORD, ARE CHANGED INTO THE SAME IMAGE FROM GLORY TO GLORY, EVEN AS BY THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD.**

*Bible study and memorization produces intellectual knowledge which is powerless to change the character and transform the life. Intellectual knowledge produces enthusiasm and short term motivation, but does not change the heart, character or life.*

*The illumination of the Holy Spirit engraves the Word of God into the fleshly tables of our heart leaving a life-lasting mark and change which cannot be easily erased. The character and nature of God are carved and infused into our hearts.*

*John 6:60–63*

*60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?*

*61 When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?*

*62 What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?*

*63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

*John 16:12–15*

*12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.*

*13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.*

*14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.*

*15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.*

### **Hebrews 8:10-11**

10 For **THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE** with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I **WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MIND, AND WRITE THEM IN THEIR HEARTS:** and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: **FOR ALL SHALL KNOW ME, FROM THE LEAST TO THE GREATEST.**

### **2 Peter 1:1-3**

1 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

2 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

3 **WHEREBY ARE GIVEN UNTO US EXCEEDING GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES: THAT BY THESE YE MIGHT BE PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE, HAVING ESCAPED THE CORRUPTION THAT IS IN THE WORLD THROUGH LUST.**

*Signs that the Word of God is alive and working in your heart and life:*

1. *losing the desire for old habits, lusts and sins*
2. *losing interest in defending or promoting self*
3. *continual longing for and communion with God*
4. *increased hunger for the Word*
5. *less and less in common with unbelievers*
6. *willingness to suffer for the sake of Christ*
7. *the ability to see through the vanity and emptiness of the world system*

**Colossians 3:16**

**“LET THE WORD OF CHRIST DWELL IN YOU RICHLY** (*abundantly*) **IN ALL WISDOM**; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

**Mark 4:14-20**

**14 THE SOWER SOWETH THE WORD.**

**15 AND THESE ARE THEY BY THE WAY SIDE, WHERE THE WORD IS SOWN; BUT WHEN THEY HAVE HEARD, SATAN COMETH IMMEDIATELY, AND TAKETH AWAY THE WORD THAT WAS SOWN IN THEIR HEARTS.**

**16 AND THESE ARE THEY LIKEWISE WHICH ARE SOWN ON STONY GROUND; WHO, WHEN THEY HAVE HEARD THE WORD, IMMEDIATELY RECEIVE IT WITH GLADNESS;**

**17 AND HAVE NO ROOT IN THEMSELVES, AND SO ENDURE BUT FOR A TIME: AFTERWARD, WHEN AFFLICTION OR PERSECUTION ARISETH FOR THE WORD'S SAKE, IMMEDIATELY THEY ARE OFFENDED.**

*Establishing roots is slow, laborious and requires great time and patience.  
The rewards of growing roots is not visible or known until tested in the storms of life.  
The storms reveal how deep the roots have grown and how big a storm can be endured.*

**18 AND THESE ARE THEY WHICH ARE SOWN AMONG THORNS; SUCH AS HEAR THE WORD,**

**19 AND THE CARES OF THIS WORLD, AND THE DECEITFULNESS OF RICHES, AND THE LUSTS OF OTHER THINGS ENTERING IN, CHOKE THE WORD, AND IT BECOMETH UNFRUITFUL.**

*Choking is a slow death resulting from life's priorities being increasingly crowded out.  
The life and power of the Word die from neglect and lack of care.  
Keeping one's life simple and focused on God's Word is the ONLY hope of victory.*

**20 AND THESE ARE THEY WHICH ARE SOWN ON GOOD GROUND; SUCH AS HEAR THE WORD, AND RECEIVE IT, AND BRING FORTH FRUIT, SOME THIRTYFOLD, SOME SIXTY, AND SOME AN HUNDRED.**