

The Judgment Seat of Christ Pt.2

May 18, 2014

THE JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

- The “Judgement Seat” comes from the Greek word “bema” used for a raised platform on which judgments were decreed, orations given or awards given to winners of Olympic Games.
- Not to be confused with the “Great White Throne” judgment in which Christ will judge the wicked following the Millennial Reign - Revelation 20:11-15.
- The Judgment Seat of Christ follows the rapture of the Church.
- The Judgment Seat of Christ is for believers, NOT unbelievers. Every believer will give an account of himself before the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- The Judgment Seat is NOT to determine salvation, but heavenly rewards. Your eternal destiny will not be decided at the Judgement Seat; it is already determined by your faith in Jesus Christ.
- There will be no condemnation for sins confessed and repented of, for those sins are no longer on your account but permanently removed from your record.

2 Corinthians 5:9–11

9 So whether we are at home or away, **we make it our aim to please him.**

10 For **we must all APPEAR** (*phaneroo - to make visible, to make clear*) **before the JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST,** so that **each one may receive what is due** for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

11 Therefore, **knowing the fear of the Lord,** we persuade others.

Though we will not be judged for sins repented of and forgiven, neither will we be sinlessly perfect. Therefore there will be evil and carnality in our lives that will have to be dealt with by God's holiness.

1 Corinthians 3:12-15

12 Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—

13 **each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.**

14 **If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward.**

15 If anyone's work is burned up, **he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.**

CRITERIA FOR THE JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

- The CHARACTER and QUALITY of your service to God

Fruit of abiding in the vine Jesus Christ OR works of self-righteousness?

1 Corinthians 3:13

13 **each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.**

John 15:5

"I am the vine; you are the branches. **Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.**"

Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ. **It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.** And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Matthew 7:21-23

21 Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?'

23 And then will I declare to them, '**I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.**'

● **The MOTIVE behind the work**

As unto the Lord to please Him for His glory OR selfish ambition and vain-glory?

1 Corinthians 4:5

"Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and **will disclose the purposes of the heart.** Then each one will receive his commendation from God."

Philippians 1:15

"Some indeed preach Christ from **envy and rivalry,** but others from **good will.**"

Matthew 6:1-6

1 "**Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.**

2 "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, **that they may be praised by others.** Truly, I say to you, **they have received their reward.**

3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And **your Father who sees in secret will reward you.**

5 "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, **that they may be seen by others.** Truly, I say to you, **they have received their reward.**

6 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And **your Father who sees in secret will reward you.**

Colossians 3:22-24

22 Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

23 **Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,**

24 **knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.**

● **Our PATIENT ENDURANCE to the End**

2 Timothy 4:7-8

7 **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.**

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me **the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day,** and not only to me but also **to all who have loved his appearing.**

Mark 4:14–20

14 The sower sows the word.

15 And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, **Satan immediately comes and takes away the word** that is sown in them.

16 And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy.

17 And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, **when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.**

18 And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word,

19 but **the cares of the world** and **the deceitfulness of riches** and **the desires for other things enter in** and **choke the word,** and **it proves unfruitful.**

20 But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

“...tribulation or persecution...”

Job 13:15 **“Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him:** But I will maintain mine own ways before him.”

“...the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things...”

1 Corinthians 9:27 **“But I discipline my body and keep it under control,** lest after preaching to others **I myself should be disqualified.**

James 1:12

"Blessed is the man who **remains steadfast under trial,** for **when he has stood the test** he will receive **the crown of life,** which God has promised to **those who love him.**"

Revelation 2:10

"**Do not fear what you are about to suffer.** Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. **Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.**"

Revelation 3:10–11

10 **Because you have kept my word about patient endurance,** I will keep you from **the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world,** to try those who dwell on the earth.

11 I am coming soon. **Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown.**

Hebrews 10:32-39

32 But **recall the former days when,** after you were enlightened, **you endured a hard struggle with sufferings,**

33 sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated.

34 For **you had compassion on those in prison,** and **you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property,** **since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.**

35 **Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.**

36 For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.

37 For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay;

38 but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him."

39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

2 John 8

"Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward."

● MINISTRY and SERVICE to the Saints

1 Thessalonians 2:19–20

19 For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?

20 For you are our glory and joy.

Hebrews 6:10-12

10 **For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love**, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that **ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.**

11 And we desire that every one of you **do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:**

12 **That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.**

1 Peter 5:1–4

1 So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed:

2 shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly;

3 not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

4 And **when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.**