

THE BELIEVER'S JUDGMENT

The New Testament explicitly speaks of a day in which every believer will “appear before the judgment seat of Christ” (II Cor. 5:10). There could hardly be a more sobering reality.

- St. Augustine – “Nothing has contributed more powerfully to wean me from all that held me down to earth than the thought constantly dwelt on of death and the last _____.”
- Merrill F. Unger – “It would not be easy to find another scriptural truth, at once so vital and pivotal to practical Christian living.”
- John Walvoord – “There is no more practical prophetic truth than this simple pointed doctrine of the _____ seat of Christ.”
- J. Dwight Pentecost – “There are few doctrines of greater importance to the child of God than the doctrine of the Judgement Seat of Christ.”
- Charles Wesley – “Arm me with jealous care as in thy sight to live; and oh, thy servant, Lord prepare a strict account to give.”

Following the Rapture of the Church, Christians have 2 events to anticipate in heaven:

- 1.) The Judgment Seat of Christ - II Cor. 5:10
- 2.) The Marriage Super of the Lamb (Rev. 19:9). How sad that such little thought is given to these 2 awesome events.

THE REALITY OF THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

The Bible is clear – “It is appointed unto man once to die, and after this, the judgement” (Heb. 9:27). Psalm 9:7 warns that God has “prepared His throne for judgment.” Ecclesiastes 12:14 tells us that “God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil.”

But the Bible is not speaking of one “General Judgement.” There is a judgment of the saved and there is a judgment of the lost! These judgments differ in purpose and in result.

- The Judgment of the lost is spoken of in Revelation 20:11-14 and is called “The _____ White Throne.” All who appear here are damned.
- The Judgment of believers is spoken of in II Corinthians 5 and is called “The Judgment _____ of Christ.” All who appear here are destined for heaven.

A _____ IS GIVEN TO THIS EVENT – II Cor. 5:10, Rom. 14:10-12.

A _____ IS SET FOR THIS EVENT – I Cor. 4:5; II Tim. 4:1.

Because the Saints come with the Savior to judge the world in Rev. 19:8 and they are clothed in (lit.) “righteousnesses,” we can assume that the Judgment Seat of Christ takes place sometime between the Rapture and the establishment of the Millenium.

A _____ IS UNDERTAKEN AT THIS EVENT– I Cor. 3:11-15; II Cor. 5:10. The Lord intends to judge the believer’s works whether they be good or _____ (Literally this means – worthless). This is not a judgment of condemnation; rather it is a judgment of commendation (Ps. 103:12).

1. A “Bema Seat” was a raised platform from which awards were given.
2. A “Stephanos” crown was awarded to athletes who won their race.

THE REWARDS OF THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

In Hebrews 11:6 we read that, “our God is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” It is at the Judgment Seat of Christ that rewards are distributed:

- These rewards will be given _____ (Matt. 6:3-6).
 These rewards will be given _____ (II Cor. 5:10).
 These rewards will be given _____ (II Cor. 5:10).

Rewards will be given to those who in our Lord’s name have been willing to be involved in the ministry of:

1. _____ (Matt. 5:11-12).
2. _____ their enemies (Luke 6:35).
3. _____ (I Cor. 9:16-17).
4. _____ the Word (Ps. 19:11).

Rewards will be given in the form of Crowns:

1. The crown of _____ (I Thes. 2:19).
2. The crown of _____ (II Tim. 4:5-8).
3. The crown of _____ (James 1:12).
4. The crown of _____ (I Pet. 5:4).
5. The _____ crown (I Cor. 9:25).

THE REMORSE OF THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

There will be those who will find the Judgment Seat of Christ a place of grief.

CONSIDER THE _____ OF THE BIBLE - I Cor. 3:15; II Cor. 5:10-11; Col. 3:23-25; Heb. 10:30-31; II Tim. 2:15; I John 2:28.

CONSIDER THE _____ OF THE BIBLE – Strauss, Scroggie, Dehaan, Epp, Barnhouse, Savage.

There is but the thickness of tissue paper between us and the Judgment Seat of Christ! (Dr. Isaac Haldeman)