

#3 THE JUDGMENT OF THE BELIEVER'S WORKS (II CORINTHIANS 5:10)

The believer's works will be judged at the "judgment seat of Christ". The term "judgment seat of Christ" is found only twice in the Bible, but it is referred to many times. It is found in the above verse, and also in (ROMANS 14:10). A careful reading of both verses in context reveals that only believers will appear at the "judgment seat of Christ."

Believer's works will be judged, not their sins; for we have already seen that the sins of the believer were judged in Christ on Calvary, and (ROMANS 8:1; "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.")

DETAILED SCRIPTURE: (I CORINTHIANS 3:9-15)

1. This judgment will take place "in the air" following the first resurrection; (I THESSALONIANS 4:14-18). After the resurrection of the saved, a thousand years will pass before the resurrection of the unsaved (REVELATION 20:4-5) and so there will be a thousand years between the "judgment seat of Christ", where only saved will appear, and the judgment at the Great White Throne (REVELATION 20:11), where only the unsaved will appear.
2. At the "judgment seat of Christ", the believer will give an account of himself to God. Therefore, we should look at our own works, and not judge the works of others (ROMANS 14:10-13)
3. It is a most humbling thought to know that someday the believer will face all his works, good or bad. Some believers will be ashamed (I JOHN 2:28), and "suffer loss"—(not the loss of salvation), but the loss of rewards (I CORINTHIANS 3:11-15). So whatever you do, do it to the glory of God (Colossians 3:17).

GOOD WORKS:

1. Witness: (MATTHEW 5:16) Living a pure consistent life for Christ.
2. Worship: (MATTHEW 26:10) Jesus referred to the worship of Himself as a good work. This woman not only praised and adored the Lord but also done a good deed.
3. Generosity: (I TIMOTHY 6:18) Being generous and ready to share with the right motive.
4. Never too small: (MATTHEW 10:42) Divine compassion for the glory of the Lord.

These Good Works are the deed described as Gold, Silver, and Precious stones seen in (I CORINTHIANS 3:12)

WORTHLESS WORKS:

1. Wrong motives: (MATTHEW 6:2) He who does a good work in order to receive the praise of others will receive no reward from God. Earthly approval work is the work described as wood, hay, and straw mentioned in (I CORINTHIANS 3:12)

REWARDS THAT LAST: The two greatest enemies of Christian service, selfishness and laziness have robbed many of God's children of rewards they should have received.

1. INCORRUPTIBLE CROWN: (The Victor's Crown) (I CORINTHIANS 9:25-27)

Those who purge themselves from the pleasures of this world in order to be profitable in service for the Lord.

2. CROWN OF LIFE: (Martyr's Crown) (Sufferer's Crown) (REVELATION 2:10)

Those who have suffered much yet endured with a sweet Christian spirit. Faithful unto death as a witness for Christ.

3. CROWN OF GLORY(The Shepherd's Crown)(Pastor's Crown) (I PETER 5:1-4)

It is reserved for those who have given their lives to the teaching and proclamation of the Word of God.

4. CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS: (For Christians who love and look forward to Christ's return) God does not demand talented vessels for His service. We need to remember that what comes from our lives is accomplished by His Power, not our skills or talent. (II TIMOTHY 4:6-8) (TITUS 2:11-15)

5. CROWN OF REJOICING(Soul Winner's Crown)(I THESSALONIANS 2:19-20)

This crown is reserved for those who have devoted their primary attention to the salvation of lost souls. Giving their lives to winning people to Jesus Christ.

(REVELATION 3:11) "BEHOLD, I AM COMING QUICKLY! HOLD FAST WHAT YOU HAVE, THAT NO ONE MAY TAKE YOUR CROWN."