



“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.” 2 Cor. 5:10 NKJV

Welcome to the

# Judgment Seat of Christ

**The Believers Judgment for Works**

Study #7.2



# The Kingdom Chronicles

Short Stories of  
Life, Love and Poetry  
in the Kingdom of Heaven



Copyright © 2015, 2017 by Steven G. Kennard. All rights reserved

The Kingdom Chronicles

The Judgment Seat of Christ

Author: Steven G. Kennard

Printed in the United States of America

All rights reserved solely by the author. The author guarantees all contents are original and do not infringe upon the legal rights of any other person or work. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without the permission of the author. The views expressed in this book are not necessarily those of the publisher.

Part of the

# Doctrines of the Bible Series



A series of Bible studies to help guide the believer in lessons of his faith. Answering the question “Why” he believes what he believes.

Ephesians 4:14, “That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;”

Hebrews 6:1-3, “Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, <sup>2</sup> of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. <sup>3</sup> And this we will do if God permits.”

# The Road to the Kingdom of Heaven

## I. Born Again, Proof that He knows you

Born Again?

Proof that He knows you

Man's Nature

Justice no longer in the way



## II. The New Man

The Great Exchange

Rightly Dividing the Word

Live a Life that Matters

The Zenith Hour

Eternity and what is Eternal

Standing before Jesus in Confidence



## III. Running the Race

The Key

For those who Believe (The New Man in Christ)

The Race Continues – It's not about Me

Who is Jesus to you?

How shall we be Judged



## IV. The Judgement Seat of Christ

The Parable of the Talents

How shall we be Judged

For the sake of the Call

Abraham ... The example

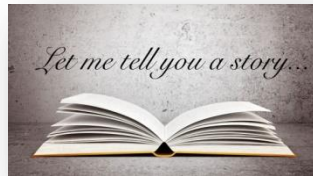
A calling not of my own making



## V. Story Teaching (A Parable for Believers)

The Judgment Seat (Story)

The Judgment Seat (Poem)







**G**od created man and then breathed into him an eternal soul. For those who would put their trusts in Him are those who are the people of the KINGDOM of HEAVEN and it is forever. You are eternal and God has put this into your heart, so that you may understand.

Ecclesiastes 3:11, “He has put eternity in their hearts.”

THE DECISIONS YOU MAKE TODAY  
DETERMINE YOU’R PLACE IN  
**E T E R N I T Y**



For those who believe shall stand before the

**Judgment Seat of Christ**

2 Cor. 5:10 (NKJV), “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, **according to what he has done**, whether good or bad.

Judgment first starts in the House of God, so it is not a strange thing that the Judgment Seat of Christ (The Second of five judgments) is for the believers. Its purpose is not to determine **WHERE** you will spend eternity, but rather **HOW** you will spend eternity. You will be judged by **what you did according to what you**

were called to do, therefore what you do in this short span of time (a vapor)<sup>1</sup> that is your life, determines **HOW** you will spend eternity, not where.

Before jumping directly into the judgment its self, we should take time to examine ourselves and what it is that gets us to this judgment of the believers.

---

<sup>1</sup> James 4:14



## Part I

### The New Birth?

John 3:1-3 (NASB), Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; <sup>2</sup> this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You have come from God *as* a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

**M**any times I have turned the channel of the television and stopped for a moment because I ran across a TV preacher and what he was saying caught my attention. His words rang true to me so I kept listening. He came to the end of his message and offered up a rather quick, short seven second prayer and then announced that if you prayed that prayer you are now born again. ... REALLY?

Can a seven second prayer on the television really save you?” Seems to me it takes away the personal aspect I think God is wanting from us. At some point you have to get alone with God, your heart, your mouth, words spent talking to God. No one else can do that for you. Confession and true repentance has to come from your heart. The answer to my question is ... yes, I suppose there are those who have truly accepted Christ from that short television experience and then what?

Churches are filled today with people who have had their short seven second, “repeat after me,” prayer. In their defense may I remind you how long the thief had on the cross, he maybe had a few minutes, but he did recognize who Jesus was. After this short prayer and the people go home, or to work the next day, the real test begins. Is there anything different about them? Is there any sign of a

## The Judgment Seat – The New Birth

change? Maybe they don't have an appetite for cursing anymore? Perhaps they found a kinder and gentler side of themselves which is now preferred over the old self. Has the luster of the old life suddenly drawn dim and not looking so wonderful anymore? Is there any evidence that there is a change in them?

However, More often than not, for many there is no change, no one notices anything about them that's different. If for some reason they are not disciplined<sup>2</sup> by anyone, they can very well become like the Parable of the Sower,<sup>3</sup> their seed falls on shallow ground, their roots never get very deep, or never began to grow at all. When the first wind of temptation comes their way, they are blown away with it.

Where is the proof of an encounter with Jesus? Why do these people still do and say and act as they always have, they still seem to have no control over their mouth and tempers, no conviction and still no self-control. If something happened in that short prayer, no one is aware of it. A week goes by and still no one can see anything different and frankly even though they may be sitting in a church pew the fact of the matter is, **nothing is different**, where is that **NEW MAN** in them?

Matthew 7:21-23 (NKJV), <sup>21</sup>“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who **does the will of My Father in heaven**.<sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’<sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘**I never knew you**; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

### **Proof that He knows you**

(Proof of the New Birth)

Not long ago while talking with God I asked Him a question, “How can we tell if we are truly saved, or if anyone has truly been saved and born again? What is the proof that you know us?” The Apostle John records an encounter Jesus had

---

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>3</sup> Matthew 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:1-15

## The Judgment Seat – The New Birth

with Nicodemus. In their exchange of words Jesus talks of the proof that I was looking for. In John 3:5 Jesus says “Unless you are **born of the Spirit you cannot enter the Kingdom of God.**” That New Man (born of the Spirit) is the proof that Jesus knows you! PRAISE GOD! The New Man must have a **new nature** and that becomes for us the proof of God in You.

### Man’s Nature

To look into man’s nature you have to go back to the Garden and the story of Adam and Eve. It was in the Garden that God gives ownership over the earth to Adam.

Genesis 1: 28 (NASB), God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and **subdue it**; and **rule over** the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Psalms 115:16 (NASB), “The heavens are the heavens of the LORD, But the earth He has **given to the sons of men.**”

This commandment to fill the earth, subdue the earth and rule over it in essence gives Adam authority over the earth. There was no sin nature in Adam, there was no sin in nature and the lion and the lamb played and lay down besides one another. There was no fear in the world. God’s creation was at peace and the scriptures say it was very good, and Adam still had a choice like all of creation.

Genesis 2:17 (NASB), but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it **you will surely die.**”



Eve was not there when God told Adam these things rather she was told of them by her husband. She had communicative knowledge only not revelation knowledge of what God had said, (one speaks to the mind and the other to the heart). When confronted by Satan she miss-quoted God by saying she could not touch the fruit. She was easily persuaded to sin. Adam who was the one with the revelational

## The Judgment Seat – The New Birth

knowledge, choose Eve over God and made his choice to sin. This was the greater of the two sins.

Because of Adam, SIN became part of everything he had dominion over. The earth and all of creation was now tainted with sin's heavy burden. Adam and Eve both had to have felt something was different in them and it didn't feel right, but they quickly got used to it. Something foreign had been introduced into them that wasn't created in them.

Where does the seed of sin lie, where does it hide? In the heart, maybe in the mind of man, or maybe we should look into man's DNA strand? Where ever it lies we know it doesn't belong there, it was not part of our original makeup and design. I believe this hidden seed of sin works against us and our flesh and many are sick because of it. Obviously man has the ability to injure, or make themselves sick even unto death. Sometimes we just don't know the origin of a disease, or why a love one got sick, they did nothing deserving of their sickness. Yet like all of nature and the earth we walk on we all suffer under the weight of man's original sin.

With the introduction of SIN into the world this parasite began to work against its host in new ways, man could now rebel against God. Sin quickly raised its ugly head, one of the early signs of it was seen when Cain killed his brother Able, and with that the rebellion began ...

We make mistakes, we want things our way right? We then justify it with comments like "we are just being human," ... "after all it's who we are ... right?"

Romans 8:20-23 (NASB), <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. <sup>23</sup>And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

Since the old man is bound by the "*law of sin and death*" (Romans 8:2), he cannot please God. Unrepentive man sins, it is what he does because it is in his nature. Why is the church so surprised when we see the world around us being full of sin? This is their nature. The truly unnatural thing is to see a Christian with his new (Christ like) nature also choosing to go out to sin against the one he claims to love.

### Justice no longer in the way

Ezekiel 18:4, 20 (NASB), <sup>4</sup> Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine. **The soul who sins will die.** ... <sup>20</sup> The **person who sins will die.** The son will not bear the punishment for the father's iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son's iniquity; the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself.

Romans 8:2 (NASB), For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has **set you free** from the **law of sin and of death.**

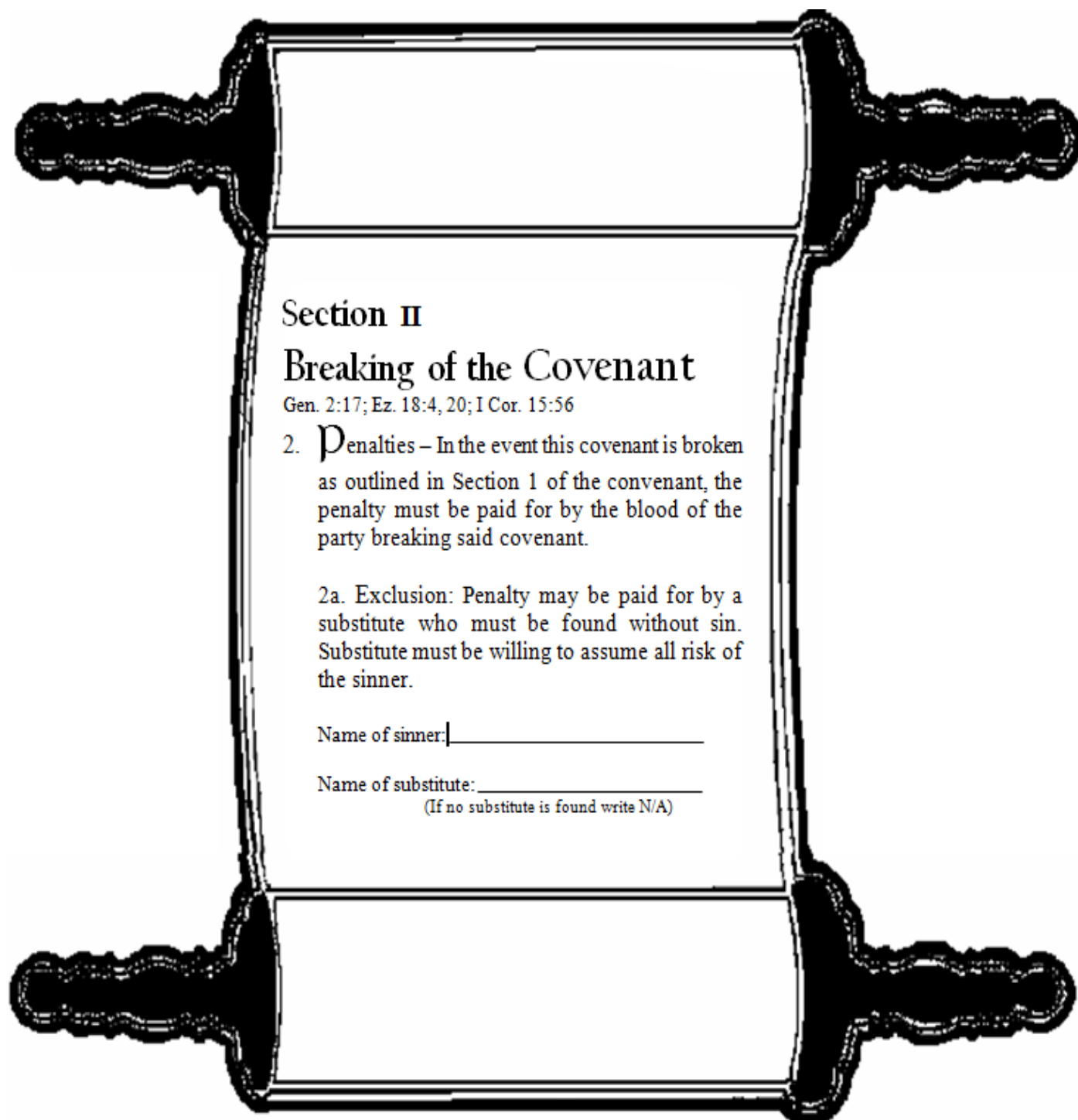
For those who never received Christ or who totally rejects Him as their Messiah they will one day have to deal with the Law of God, up front and personal they will experience the Justice of God, it is called the *Law of Sin and Death* which Paul refers to (Ro.8:2). For those who do believe and have accepted Jesus as their Savior for them the Justice of God yields to the Mercy of God. Jesus becomes their substitute for sin.

On the next page is what the covenant might look like and if it does there is a clause in it, an **EXCLUSION FROM THE PENITY OF THE LAW**. If you put your name on the first line as the sinner (and we all are) then the only question is who, if anyone is willing to take your place? Who will pay sins debt for you? If there is no one, then you pay sins debt. But if you are a believer you can then with confidence write in the name of Jesus.

## The Judgment Seat – The New Birth

1 Peter 2:24 (NASB), “and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.”

1 Cor. 15:3, Christ **died** for our sins"



**Section II**

**Breaking of the Covenant**

Gen. 2:17; Ez. 18:4, 20; I Cor. 15:56

2. Penalties – In the event this covenant is broken as outlined in Section 1 of the covenant, the penalty must be paid for by the blood of the party breaking said covenant.

2a. Exclusion: Penalty may be paid for by a substitute who must be found without sin. Substitute must be willing to assume all risk of the sinner.

Name of sinner: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of substitute: \_\_\_\_\_

(If no substitute is found write N/A)





## Part II

### The New Man



**Evidence** of a New Nature is the proof of God in you.

Its time you knew who you are in Christ Jesus



Our Adoption as Sons<sup>4</sup>, the Redemption of our Body.

Romans 5:15 (NASB), "... For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.



2 Corinthians 5:17 , "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.**

When a person comes to God repenting of their sins, believing that Jesus is the Son of God and receiving Him as their savior He receives a new nature in Christ Jesus. He no longer is bound by SIN, (He is set free). God declares him righteous. A new relationship has begun between himself and Jesus. To become more like Jesus is what the Christian walk is all about. Pastors and Bible teachers are there to help you, the new man walks in this newness of life.

### The Great Exchange

**The hallmark of someone who truly has accepted Jesus Christ as his/her savior is that a new nature is birthed in them.** This is what Jesus was talking to Nicodemus about, a new spirit is given, it feels like ... like ... being born again, a second chance at life and with God. All things are new, praise God.

---

<sup>4</sup> Galatians 3:26-4:7

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

Christ wants to take your old nature (burdens) and give you His nature it is gentle and humble in heart. Therefore a NEWMAN is born in you, you are not the same person. This is the **EXCHANGE OF NATURES** God desires for you.

Matthew 11:28-29 (NASB), <sup>28</sup> “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> **Take My yoke upon you** and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Yoke = nature, Jesus’ yoke = the New Man

1 Peter 5:7 (NKJV), “**Casting all your care upon Him**, for He cares for you.

Authentic Christianity is a mystery to many people. That is because Christ is a mystery. Because of our intimate personal relationship with Him we are a mystery to the world. Those who do not know the Lord Jesus Christ will not and cannot be expected to understand the true Christian until they too, have a saving knowledge of Him.

Colossians 1:27 (NASB), <sup>27</sup> to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**.

Galatians 2:20 (NASB), <sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

<sup>5</sup>“A real Christian is indeed a true mystery. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen, talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see, expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another, empties himself in order to be full, admits he is wrong so he can be declared right, goes down in order to get up, is strong when he is weakest, richest when he is poorest, and happiest when he feels worst.

---

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.abideinchrist.com/messages/col1v27.html> - an A. W. Tozer quote

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

He dies so he can live, forsakes in order to have, gives away so he can keep, sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, and knows that which surpasses earthly knowledge."

Christians are meant to be different, and we are in good company.

1 Peter 2:9 (KJV), "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light;"

Can you imagine Christ in all His glory actually dwelling (through His Spirit) in our lives right now? God's goal is to make us just like Christ. God is at work and He is sovereign. God is in the people business and changing lives is what He does. The way He does it is a mystery.



By Rev. Clarence Larkin "Rightly Dividing the Word"

As the "God-Man," Christ's mind was lucid as the light. With Christ there never was any confusion or hesitation in answering questions. He taught the profoundest truths in the simplest manner. He spoke of things and events in which he was a participant before He came in the world, and prophesied of things that would take place after His departure and in which He would participate.



He never took counsel of others. The wisdom of the ages seemed centered in Him. He exhausted every subject He touched with a single sentence, and His parables are beyond improvement. He never conjectured or supposed, and never asked questions for information but simply to fix attention on what He was about to do. He not only knew men, He knew their character and read their thoughts.

Other Bible characters confess faults and sins, Jesus never did. He uniformly expressed a distinct sense of faultlessness and perfection. He never once reproached himself, or regretted anything He had ever done or said, or indicated

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

that He had taken a wrong step or neglected an opportunity or that anything could have been done or said better than He had done or said it.

He said – “I do always those things which please the Father.” He never apologized or excused Himself. He asked the Disciples to watch with Him, but never to pray for Him. He never used plural personal pronouns in His prayers. He always said “I” and “Me,” and “these” and “them,” never “We” and “Us.”

He claimed equality with God, that He was the Messiah, that He had power to forgive sins, and that He could give rest. He demanded first place, and said that no one could come to the Father only through Him. He said “I am the ‘Bread of Life;’ ‘I am the Light of the World;’ ‘I am the ‘Way, the Truth, the ‘Life;’ ‘I am the Water of Life;’ ‘I am the ‘Resurrection and the Life;’ ‘before Abraham was I Am.” If Jesus was not the Son of God He was the greatest egotist the world has ever seen, aye! He was more, He was a bad man, an imposter, a perjurer, a blasphemer, and unworthy of acceptance or belief.

He was not a Physician. He never employed a splint, tied an artery, used a knife, nor gave a prescription, yet he cured the sick, cleansed the lepers, caused the blind to see and the deaf to hear, and the dead could not remain dead in his presence. He was not an Author. He never wrote, as far as we know, but a single line and that in the sand that the wind obliterated. The Gospel He preached made such an impression upon the minds of His disciples that they put it into written form in which it has survived down the centuries, and is to be found in the best literature of the world.

He was not an Orator, as the world speaks of oratory, but He spoke as never a man spoke, and the common people heard Him gladly. He was a master of every form of human speech, and His parabolic form of speech has never been excelled. He was not a Poet and yet His life has inspired the world, the greatest poets and given us our greatest inspirational hymns and anthems. He was not a Musician, but to Him the great musical composers of the world owe their inspiration. He was not an Artist, but without Him the great Masterpieces of Art would never have appeared on canvas. He was not an Architect, only a humble Galilean carpenter, a maker of wooden ploughs and ox-yokes, but the most beautiful and artistic buildings in the world were designed to commemorate His memory and dedicated to His worship and service.

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

Who was this man? This man whose coming into the world changed the world's reckoning of the years, and gave to Christendom the festive seasons of Christmas and Passover? Was He a Fanatic? Was He a Lunatic? Was He a Dreamer?

There never was another man like Him. No writer could ever invent such a character. Who was He then? He was a FOREIGNER. He was not the type of man that this world produces. He came from some other realm. He came to make us a “Kinsman,” and having done that He went back to His own country again taking our nature with Him. The supernatural manner of His coming demanded the supernatural manner of His going. He was what He claimed to be the

**“Mystery of Godliness” – GOD MANIFEST IN THE FLESH.**

What else can Jesus do for you to realize how much He loves you? He has done all the work, you just have to believe and accept him



### Live a Life that Counts

#### First ... The Baggage

In your efforts to draw closer to Jesus, at some time you will run into a huge stumbling block in that you will realize the heavy burden you have been carrying for years. You haven't noticed it because you have been carrying it for so long and have grown accustomed to it. Oh you have complained about things in the past and “If only it could have been different then I wouldn't be in this mess.”

Over and over you dwell on the hurts of life growing up, the mean and ugly things kids said in school seem to have stuck like glue, love gone wrong and bad financial deals at the hand of well-meaning Christian friends that you couldn't afford. It is the baggage of your life. We all have it, and if we are to live a life that counts then we need to deal with it, forgive it and lay that burden down. The key

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

word here is in the forgiving of it, and thus letting go of it. My friend this is why Jesus came and died, so that you can be free. Consider what Jesus said,

Matthew 11:28-30: (KJV), <sup>28</sup> Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden [*baggage*], and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke [*nature*] upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke [*nature*] is easy, and my burden is light. [*Comments added for clarity*]

As it always happens, one day I heard from my old friend again. This time it was through someone I don't know all that well, but the message made its way to me and so I share it with you. Once again in love Jesus reaches out and speaks to all of us and to those who are still carrying those ugly old burdens. As it was given to me so I share it with you.

From Jesus in love,

“It always happens that someone makes your life difficult, that you are hurt and disappointed. And often you deal with these hurts for far too long. I want to offer you freedom in exchange for the hurt and the wounds of your heart. I want to help you trust others and let go of your fearful suspicions. I want to give you an open, vulnerable and loving heart. I came to this world to forgive you of your own faults and make you a new person, to bring you a new life and to heal you. Have the courage to deal honestly with the hidden hurts that constantly besiege you and forgive them. I assure you, that whatever you have been through, and whatever has been done to you, I can turn all things to good, and double what you have lost.”

*Jesus*

Dealing with the past means now we can really begin to live ... burden free!  
It is a gift from the one who loves you.



## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

### The decisions we make

In the beginning God gave a gift to all created things, from the angelic host to all mankind. It was not something you can hold in your hand. In fact it's not a thing at all. Before the foundations of the earth the gift was given, it was a simple matter of choice. The ability to choose for yourself is a great gift, no more blind obedience knowing nothing else, but the will of God. **The God who loves you and created you offers Himself up as the choice.**

By your own will you choose God and the things of God, knowing His commandments, reaping His rewards. But you can also choose to not know God, go your own way putting yourself first, believing it's all about you. In time this leads to feelings of emptiness inside that you can feel. The feeling of emptiness is because God should be there not you. Only God can fill the emptiness that rises up in you. It is therefore by your choices that one day you will be judged.

God's desire is that you choose Him, and if you do He shall direct your paths in life and you shall be blessed. Here then is the secret of a life that counts, a life that will be rewarded for when you stand before Jesus.

Proverbs 3:6 (TLB), <sup>6</sup>“ In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success.”

### The Zenith Hour

By definition the term “zenith” is sometimes used to refer to the highest point, way or level reached by a celestial body during its [orbit](#) around a given point. Most often used to describe the location of the [Sun](#) ("The sun reached its zenith...").

So how can this relate to you then? Your Zenith becomes a point in time in which you are most powerful, or successful. God's will for you is that you reach this Zenith point in your life, living a life that matters and a life for the Kingdom of Heaven. God has given you gifts and talents and a mission to do. When these come together in service to Him, treasures are laid up in Heaven and you know you are doing the Father's will concerning you.

Remember Proverbs 3:6? In everything you do put God first (choose God) and He will direct you and crown your efforts with success. This scripture is made up of two parts a command to “Put God first.” Remember that gift from God we call choice? Choose God, not just for salvation, but in everyday choices you make. The second part is the promise that He (God) will direct your path in life and crown you with success. A promise based on obedience.

### **God’s desire for you is that you succeed in life so that He may give you rewards.**

Ps 90:12, 17 (NLT) <sup>12</sup>Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom. <sup>17</sup>And may the Lord our God show us his approval and make **our efforts successful**. Yes, make **our efforts successful**!

\*[*Brevity*] meaning a short time (vapor). Make the most of the time you have.

Repeating the phrase “*Make our efforts successful*” is to call our attention to the fact that Gods will for us is to be successful.

Deut. 30:9 (NLT), <sup>9</sup>“The LORD your God will then make you successful in everything you do...”

Joshua 1:8 (NLT), “<sup>8</sup>Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will **you prosper and succeed** in all you do.

Proverbs 19:8 (TLB), <sup>8</sup>He who loves wisdom loves his own best interest and **will be a success**.

\* Wisdom gives us knowledge and ability to make right choices at the opportune time. True wisdom is for those that fear God and it can only be found in Christ.



## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

Proverbs 9:12 (NIV), <sup>12</sup> If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer.

God wants to reward His people:

Psalms 37:18 (TLB), <sup>18</sup> Day by day the Lord observes the good deeds done by godly men, and gives them eternal rewards.

Malachi 3:16-18 (KJV) <sup>16</sup> Then they that feared the LORD spoke often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a **book of remembrance** was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.<sup>17</sup> And they shall be mine, said the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spares his own son that serves him. <sup>18</sup> Then shall you return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that served God and him that served him not.

Therefore have an eternal perspective on success. At the Judgement Seat of Christ you will find out if you have built your life on eternal standards, or did you build your life on temporal (earthly) standards. Only what is done for the Lord will stand the true test of fire, everything else will burn up and you will suffer the loss of the rewards God had waiting for you, but could not send them on. On this day you will see what God had planned for you and the rewards He had planned for you, but never was given. Truly you will realize then the loss you have suffered all because of the choices you made, good or bad, God or self.

### **Eternity and what is the Eternal?**

Eternity, it is everything that has come before us, it includes our present and it is everything that comes after us however long it may be. In our study on Ages and Dispensations we learned that time for the most part can be divided into three parts, “Before time,” “Present time,” “After time.”

**Eternity before time**, the *Alpha age* (Aleph). When God began to create, also known as the “Creative Age.” This period can be summed up in the first word of

the Bible “Beresheeth,” In the beginning (dateless past). It was the “Time of Generation” for God spoke and out of nothing all things became.

**Eternity present** is the time when sin entered the world and it became for us a “Time of Degeneration.” As God told Adam if you eat of the Tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall surely die” (meaning a natural death, but there was also a spiritual death). Sin tears down, it destroys and it causes death and degeneration. This is one reason why God says in Revelation 21 that He makes all things new. Everything around us from nature to our own bodies breaks down and withers away back into the earth, all the effects of sin.

For those who believe should understand that this is their time to **get to know God**, to live their lives for Him so He may give His rewards to them. Remember the Kingdom of Heaven was created for those who believe.

**Eternity past, “After time.”** This is that time for the saints to **be with God** for ever and ever, the *Omega age* (Tav), the Age of Ages

Eph. 2:6-7 (NASB), “<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”

God is eternal He has always been and will always will be. Since God is eternal then what he speaks is eternal and therefore his word is eternal. This is that sure foundation that we can build our lives on. Everything is upheld by his word.<sup>6</sup> For the believer they build their lives on things that are eternal which is his word. The world and those who know not God, nor retain Him in their consciousness build their lives off of cultural thinking, traditions, assumptions and emotional feelings of who God is depending on their own particular lifestyles.

Jn. 12:47-50 (NASB), <sup>47</sup> If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.<sup>48</sup> He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the **last day**.<sup>49</sup> For I did not speak on My

---

<sup>6</sup> Hebrews 1:3

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak. <sup>50</sup>I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

Jesus’ use of the phrase “**Last day**” refers to Judgment day. For it is on this day of your judgment that becomes for you your last day experience, for the next thing you will experience is your eternity. For the believer this is the Judgment Seat of Christ determining not **where** you will spend eternity, but **how** you will spend eternity. For the unbeliever this last day judgment will be the Great White Thrown Judgment. This judgment, like the Judgment Seat of Christ does not determine where they will spend eternity, but rather the degree of eternal punishment they will experience.

The basis of both Judgments will be the words Jesus has already spoken and given to us in His word. There will be no new criteria for judgment, for the foundation of judgment has already been laid that all men shall be judged by every word Jesus spoke and He received them from His Father.

John 12:48,50 (NIV), <sup>48</sup> “... the very words I have spoken will condemn them at the last day.” <sup>50</sup> “... therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

So, now that we have seen by how we will all be judged, let’s take a moment to understand just how long His judgments will last. If you do a crime and found guilty a judge will then determine an appropriate punishment according to how bad the crime was. The sentence usually has a time factor built into it in which it is considered that the prisoner would have paid his debt and be freed.

At both of the judgments of God, believer and unbeliever alike will realize that the judgments of Jesus are **FOREVER**. Eternity is a long time to live with the results of a judgment made over a life that was just a vapor in time, here one day and gone the next. Heaven is a wonderful place, but if your judgment causes you to be a gate keeper in the Kingdom of Heaven, know that you will be a gate keeper for more than one hundred trillion of trillions of years. There is no chance of moving up the Kingdom ladder. There are some who will sit on thrones with Christ, while others will rule over continents, still others will be rule over 50, 100 cities while others rule over 1 city. What is to be the determination of you

evaluation on your last day? Crowns and honor given by the Son of God for a life lived for Him, or will you barely squeak in with nothing to show for your life, but your own selfish desires and ambition. Heaven is all about honor, a place where the saints are honored for their faith in God while alive on the earth and how they lived their lives. To whom much was given much was expected.<sup>7</sup>

### Standing before Jesus in confidence

Eternal (Kingdom) Perspective  
not Temporal (Earthly) Thinking

Confidence on Judgment day (The last day)

#### 1. Seek the Lord

Heb. 11:6 (NASB), <sup>6</sup>“And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those **who seek Him**.”

Mat.7:7 (NASB), “**Ask**, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; **knock**, and it will be opened to you.

It is said that there are seven laws of the Spiritual Life.<sup>8</sup> law number four states that “What you seek you will find.” Here in Matthew 7:7 we are told to **first** “**Ask**.” Remember we have not because we ask not.<sup>9</sup> **Second** we are told to **seek** Him. Remember for the Christian it is always all about Jesus. He is the one we will stand before in judgment, so seek Him above all else. **Thirdly** we are told to **knock**. What are the ways in which we knock on Heavens doors? Two ways immediately come to mind. The first one is prayer, you must believe that prayer changes things. Our prayers are offered up to God in a golden censer<sup>10</sup> and

---

<sup>7</sup> Luke 12:48

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.keepbelieving.com/sermon/the-fourth-law-what-you-seek-you-find/>

<sup>9</sup> James 4:2

<sup>10</sup> Ps. 141:2; Revelation 5:8; 8:3

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

become like sweat smelling incense to Him, aromas of the prayers of His saints fill his nostrils.

Isaiah 55:6-7 (KJV), <sup>6</sup>“Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:” <sup>7</sup>Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

So we can see that truly seeking the Lord is one way we can have confidence on Judgment Day, knowing that our lives were all about seeking Jesus.

### 2. Keep His Commandments

For those who truly love the Lord and strive to keep His commandments, to those who love as Jesus did and to forgive as they have been forgiven these are those who have been planted in the House of God. They are His children, the Bride of Jesus Christ.

Psalms 92:13 (NASB), “Planted in the house of the LORD, They will flourish in the courts of our God.”

Note: The “Courts of our God = The Judgment Seat of God

For those whose lives have not been all about themselves, who focused on Jesus, who have strived to love as they have been loved can stand before Him on that great day to receive his reward for them not in fear, but in confidence that they have fought the good fight. They stood for Jesus in the mist of this world’s pressure whatever their situation weather good or bad.

### 3. There is no fear in Confidence

I look forward to that day when I stand before my Lord and Savior, the only true Lover of my soul, the one who has been there for me my entire life, my friend. I have to say that I have not always been as true to Him as He has been to me, so

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

the relationship has been a little lopsided to say the least. I think that could be said to some degree about everyone who stands before Him on that day of judgment.

Face to face I will then look into His eyes for they are full of love and understanding for me. He knows my beginnings, He knows my past. In that place I will find that an examination of my life has been called for, a judgment to be made. After the wood, hay, and stubble have all been burned up (notwithstanding the test of fire) will there be any evidence of a life I claimed was lived for Him?

What did Jesus really ask us to do anyway? It was simply to love Him and keep His commandments. The desire of every born again heart is focused on loving Him. For it is written that perfect love cast out all fear.<sup>11</sup> I can stand with confidence knowing in whom I have trusted and believed in, for truly the longer I serve Him the sweeter He grows.

1 Jn 4:17 (NLT) <sup>17</sup> And as we live in God, **our love grows more perfect.** So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world.

How do we have confidence? We grow in his love.

1 Jn. 2:5 (AMP) <sup>5</sup> But whoever **habitually keeps His word and obeys His precepts** [and treasures His message in its entirety], in him the love of God has truly been perfected [it is completed and has reached maturity]. By this we know [for certain] that we are in Him: (emphasis added)

We know our love for him has matured when we keep his word in its entirety.

2 Jn. 6 (NASB), <sup>6</sup>And **this is love, that we walk according to His commandments.** This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning that you should walk in it.

Love is truth, Love is keeping the Commandments of God

---

<sup>11</sup> 1 John 4:18

## The Judgment Seat – The New Man

1 Jn. 5:3 (NASB), “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.”

Grace is not about doing whatever you want to. Grace is more of an empowerment to help you be that person who has the Kingdom of God in them and who looks forward to going home to the Kingdom of Heaven, of these two you should know that one is a person and the other is a place. Grace is not a cover up for a completely lawless life contrary to the laws of the kingdom for which you say you love.



## Part III

### The Race



Wisdom, understand, revelation of who you are. I just want to know you , to see you, to receive your debts, to my debts open me up, open my eyes, enlarge my capacity to know you, to hold you. I just want to know you.<sup>12</sup>

1. Run the Race with an eye on the goal.

1 Cor. 9:24 (AMP), <sup>24</sup> “Do you not know that in a race all the runners run [their very best to win], but only one receives the prize? Run [your race] in such a way that you may seize the prize *and* make it yours!”

1 Cor, 9:26 (NLT), <sup>26</sup> “So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing.”



In this race you are running against yourself!

The rewards you will receive, or those you will suffer loss for will stand true for all eternity. There is no second chance judgment, no moving up in the Kingdom.

The judgment Jesus makes concerning you will be final ... **final** ... **final**.

---

<sup>12</sup> Words by: JoAnn McFatter – Make Way



## The Judgment Seat – The Race



### The Key<sup>13</sup> - Jesus the Example

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NASB), <sup>12</sup>“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

### The Meaning of the Judgment (Bema) Seat

Romans 14:10 (NASB), “... For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.”

Romans 14:10 speaks of the Judgment Seat. This is a translation of the Greek word “*bema*”. While *bema* is used in the gospels and again in Acts of a raised platform where a Roman magistrate or ruler sat to make decisions and pass sentence (Mt. 27:19; Jn. 19:13), it is use in the epistles by Paul, because of his many allusions to the Greek athletic contest, is more in keeping with its original use among the Greeks.

In all of these passages, Paul was picturing the believer as a competitor in a spiritual contest. As the victorious Grecian athlete appeared before the Bema to receive his perishable reward, so the Christian will appear before Christ’s Bema to receive his imperishable award. The judge at the Bema bestowed rewards to the victors, he did not whip the losers. I might add, neither did he sentence them to hard labor.



In the ancient Greek games, a judge would stand at the finish line holding, in plain sight, the laurel leaves that would be rewarded to the victor. As runners came down the final stretch, they were exhausted, perhaps in agony, and feeling

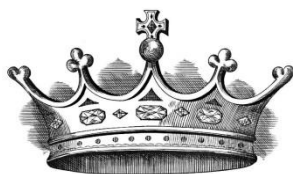
---

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.harvest.org/devotions-and-blogs/daily-devotions/2012-08-25>

## The Judgment Seat – The Race

as though they couldn't go another step. But suddenly there was the prize in sight, and a new burst of energy would kick in.

This is the picture behind the phrase "looking unto Jesus" in Hebrews 12:2. We have to keep our eyes on Jesus Christ. And our prize is the privilege of standing before Him and receiving the crown of righteousness that He will give us.



That is why we try to live godly lives, and why we try to reach people for Him. It isn't for brownie points. It isn't for applause. It isn't for notoriety. It's so we can hear Jesus say to us on that final day, "Well done, good and faithful servant." No, we can't earn our salvation, because He has already provided it. But we want to please the One who laid down His life for us. Ultimately, we want to be able to say, "Lord, I took the life You gave me and tried to make a difference. Here it is. I offer it to you."

"Looking unto Jesus. . . ." That keeps you going, doesn't it? After all, you can get discouraged at times. People will let you down. They will disappoint you. They won't appreciate your hard work or notice your efforts. Not bothering to understand your real motives, they'll criticize that which they don't (or won't) understand. And that is when you need to remind yourself, I am not running my race for this person or that person. I am running for You, Lord. And I will keep running. . . with my eyes fixed on You.

# For those who believe

(The New Man in Christ)

1. I am ... Accepted in the beloved. .... Ephesians 1:6
2. I am ... Blessed with all blessings. .... Ephesians 1:3
3. I am ... Chosen in Him ..... Ephesians 1:4
4. I am ... Delivered from dark powers ..... Colossians 1:13
5. I am ... Elevated to heavenly places..... Ephesians 2:6
6. I am ... Forgiven from all sin ..... Ephesians 1:7
7. I am ... God's workmanship ..... Ephesians 2:20
8. I am ... Healed by His strips ..... 1 Peter 2:24
9. I am ... Innocent before Him in love ..... Ephesians 1:4
10. I am ... Justified by faith ..... Romans 5:1
11. I am ... Kept by the Power of God ..... 1 Peter 2:24
12. I am ... Loved unconditionally ..... John 3:16
13. I am ... More than a conqueror ..... Romans 8:37
14. I am ... Not condemned ..... Romans 8:1
15. I am ... Overcoming the world ..... 1 John 5:5
16. I am ... Predestined to son ship ..... Ephesians 1:5
17. I am ... Quickened together with Christ ..... Ephesians 2:5
18. I am ... Redeemed from the curse of the law ..... Galatians 3:13
19. I am ... Sealed with the promised Holy Spirit ..... Ephesians 1:13
20. I am ... To His praise ..... Ephesians 1:12
21. I am ... Unto His glory..... Ephesians 1:14
22. I am ... Victorious through Jesus ..... 1 Corinthians 15:57
23. I am ... Washed in His blood ..... Revelation 1:5
24. I am ... Crucified with Christ ..... Galatians 2:20
25. I am ... Yoked together with believers ..... 2 Corinthians 6:14
26. I am ... Zealous of good works ..... Titus 2:14

## The Race Continues

### It's not about Me

One night I went outside just to have a few moments alone. I looked up into the night sky and all that I saw was amazing and yet still a mystery to me. It dawned on me that what I was looking at was just a small part of the grandeur of the Lord, His power on display before my eyes. I thought to myself, "God is an awesome God."

The heavens are glorious and eternal ... I am not. There is something greater than me out there, greater than anything I could ever hope to be. Then in a fleeting moment of self-examination, I realized that the person I was, suddenly was not the person I wanted to be.

Then the Spirit of the Lord spoke to me, it was the voice of an old familiar friend.

"As it is in heaven on the earth shall it be done,  
I came to show you the better way, you and I become one.  
Now is the time to look at the man you have become.

Revelation of the eternal things are mine to give,  
Born of the Kingdom is where they can be found.  
Up among the stars is where the greater truth abounds.  
I opened your eyes so you can see my handy work,  
So you can see eternity.  
Go ahead have a look around.

Out there in the vast unknown, further then your eye can see.  
Look to the heavens above, there you will find Me.  
Heaven is the place your heart yearns to be.

Now I see your indecision in the choices I have given you.  
You question the things I have called you to do.  
So I lay before you a path, two ways to choose,  
The wider road is full of those who think life is all about them,  
The world is a lesser place for it, their lives ruined by sin.

Self-indulgence and fear are things that keep you from experiencing that which is greater than yourself, and on you they take a heavy toll.

Souls that are rigged and unmovable are forged in the fires from below,

Give yourself over to the greater good in all that you do,  
Remember this simple lesson my son, IT IS NOT ABOUT YOU!

Man cannot choose his time,  
He is put on this earth for a purpose, the reasons are mine.  
You are here for a greater good, one day in Heaven you will know,  
Don't ever let go of my hand, we have a long way to go.

I have sent you into the world, to a family you were given,  
To be the example of my love, tell them I have risen.

Not all are called for great and glorious things, of which I do.  
Your life has meaning, if only to those who are around you.

Show them My glory in the gifts you have received,  
Through your testimony many shall come to believe.

On that final day crowns of rewards will be given, for you more than one,  
For your life was not all about you, you gave glory and honor to the Son.  
Enter into the Kingdom ... job well done.”<sup>14</sup>

---

<sup>14</sup> Matthew 25:21

## Who is JESUS to you?

Many people are under the impression that Jesus came into this world as its judge, or even their judge. They believe this because His teachings convict their hearts of their own sin. As Jesus has said so many times, that He did not come to judge the world, rather **He came to SAVE the world and that includes you.**

John 12:47 (NKJV), <sup>47</sup> And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for **I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.** <sup>48</sup> He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. <sup>49</sup> For I have not spoken on My own *authority*; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. (*emphasis added*)

Jesus came to save those who would believe in Him, so then what is this judgment the scriptures talks about? Is there a judgment for the Christian?

Hebrews 9:27 (KJV), “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”

Yes, even the believer is to have his time of personal judgment. A better term for the word judgment would be “**examination**,” his time of personal examination for the things he has done especially in the light of the calling to which God has called him to, and an eternal judgment will be made concerning the believer.

So then how shall you be judged? As the scripture above (Jn.12:47) tells us, we are to be judged by the words which Jesus has already spoken. Our works shall be judged by the **WORD** of God, and as to the time of this judgment, it is said to happen on the “last day.” The “last day” is the Day of Judgment, and for the believer that is the **Judgment Seat of Christ.**





## Part IV

### The Judgment Seat of Christ

**F**or those who know Jesus as their Savior who believes that he is who He said He is, they shall stand before Him on the last day, at the Judgment Seat of Christ. **This event shall take place in Heaven.**

As repetition helps us to keep things in our memory, so I shall be repeating many things spoken about already in an attempt to sum up the events spoken about bringing them all together into one conclusion.

This event is for you the believer an evaluation of your life for the purpose of making a final decision of what rewards you deserve (things laid up in heaven) and as to your eternal place in the Kingdom of Heaven.

### The Parable of the Talents

luke19:11-27

(With comments added in red [brackets])

**Luke 19:11-27 (NASB),** <sup>11</sup> While they were listening to these things, Jesus went on to tell a parable, because He was near Jerusalem, and they supposed that the kingdom of God was going to appear immediately. <sup>12</sup> So He said, “A nobleman [Jesus] went to a distant country [Heaven] to receive a kingdom for himself, and then return. [Christ Return] <sup>13</sup> And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas [personal gifts and talents] and said to them, ‘Do business with this until I come back.’ <sup>14</sup> But his citizens hated him [they hated Jesus before they hated you] and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We do not want this man to reign over us.’ [the world does not want Jesus to return] <sup>15</sup> When he returned, after receiving the kingdom, he ordered that these slaves,



to whom he had given the money, be called to him so that he might know what business they had done. [what have you done with what God has given you]<sup>16</sup> The first appeared, saying, 'Master, your mina has made ten minas more.'<sup>17</sup> And he said to him, 'Well done, good slave, because you have been faithful in a very little thing, you are to be in authority over ten cities.'<sup>18</sup> The second came, saying, 'Your mina, master, has made five minas.'<sup>19</sup> And he said to him also, 'And you are to be over five cities.'<sup>20</sup> Another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I kept put away in a handkerchief;<sup>21</sup> for I was afraid of you, [those who do nothing with what God has given them] because you are an exacting man; you take up what you did not lay down and reap what you did not sow.'<sup>22</sup> He said to him, 'By your own words I will judge you, you worthless slave. Did you know that I am an exacting man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow?'<sup>23</sup> Then why did you not put my money in the bank, and having come, I would have collected it with interest?'<sup>24</sup> Then he said to the bystanders, 'Take the mina away from him and give it to the one who has the ten minas.'<sup>25</sup> And they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas already.'<sup>26</sup> I tell you that to everyone who has, more shall be given, but from the one who does not have, even what he does have [was given to him] shall be taken away."



2 Timothy 2:12 (NASB), <sup>12</sup> If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us;

As we have read in these scriptures there are some who will rule and reign with Christ and some who will rule over many cities and even continents. While on the other hand there are still others who are glade to just be in heaven, for they had nothing to show for their life lived in selfish ambition, nothing to show for the life they lived, nothing that proved that their life was not all about them. In their pile of wood, hay, and stubble there will be nothing left that stood the test of fire.



### HOW SHALL WE BE JUDGED?

I will remind you of something that was said at the beginning of the study. Your time of judgment or evaluation is not to determine where you will spend eternity, but rather how you will spend eternity according to what you were given to do (gifts and talents). What are your talents? While the nobleman was gone what did you do with what you were given?

Matthew 25:21 (NASB), <sup>21</sup> His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

In the above scripture the message Jesus wants us to understand is two-fold. “You were faithful with a few things,” the second is his reward for faithfulness; “I will put you in charge of many things.” Faithfulness in your calling of what you were called to do equal rewards in heaven, and in the case of the parable of the talents their reward was to rule over cities. Crowns are not the only thing that is given as rewards at the judgment seat of Christ.

### FOR THE SAKE OF THE CALL

(Wisdom, Understanding, Revelation of who YOU are.)

Not everyone has been given the gift of preaching, or teaching. We all cannot stand in front of a crowd and be that great orator that the men of God were as they boldly proclaimed the Gospel of the Kingdom. Not all of us will be in a choir, or a singing group, not all of us will ever play a musical instrument. So does that mean that we who seem to have no particular gifting at all, no talents that we can hold up to the Lord on the last day, that we lose rewards? Surly there has to be more, something that the musically uninclined, the non-vocally gifted ones have to lift up and give back to Jesus.

To that Jesus says ... “There is, it’s My calling on your life.” What will you do for the sake of your calling?” What will you do with what you have been called to do?

## ABRAHAM ... THE EXAMPLE

Genesis 12:1-9

Everyone has heard the story of Abraham and that God called him out of his home land and away from his family to a new place. Abraham acted on God's calling and by faith he followed the Lord. It was because of this great faith that God counted it as righteousness towards Abraham.

Abraham was 75 years old when he began his journey. I bet he must have thought he was too old to be used of God. Too old to travel to some new place far away, but the scriptures tell us he did. Abraham moved forward at God's calling. David was a shepherd boy when he was anointed to be king (1 Samuel 16:11-13). Paul encountered the Lord on his way to arrest Jewish believers in Damascus. After his conversion he became the Lord's representative to the Gentiles (Acts 9:1-6; Acts 22:21). Our call may not be so dramatic, but it will always involve moving forward by faith.

Following God will also include times of testing. Abraham, like all of us, had some successes and some failures. The initial call to leave his country was met with strong belief and immediate action. As a result, the Lord promised a great blessing for him and his descendants.<sup>15</sup> But encountering a famine brought a different response from Abraham—a journey to Egypt, deception about his relationship with Sarah, and chastisement from Pharaoh.<sup>16</sup> Our response to God's commands really matters. Through our actions, we can bring blessing or heartache.

Obedying the Lord can be uncomfortable. Those close to us may question our motives or disagree with our decisions. And we may not want to do what God asks. But faith will keep us moving forward in obedience. Faith helps us stay the course and experience the blessings found in a relationship with Christ.

Obedience to His calling in your life will be looked at in the examination process of the Judgment Seat of Christ.

---

<sup>15</sup> Genesis 12:2-3

<sup>16</sup> Genesis 20-22

## A CALLING NOT OF MY OWN MAKING

What were you called to do? Have you found your gifting yet, your calling in life? I went to a Christian High School and once a week we had a chapel service and many times the school brought in speakers from the mission field. One of them served on the Island of Borneo in the Southwestern Pacific Ocean. As he shared with us of what God was doing there, somehow made my heart just wanted to be there also. I imagined myself doing what he was talking about and how God would use me too. Am I supposed to be a missionary, I thought? Though I didn't know the answer to that question, I will tell you ... God had a plan.<sup>17</sup>

I believe the message that day would be a word of encouragement for me, for what was about to happen in my life. A year and a half later I found myself in the Army and in Vietnam. ...but, God had a plan. I looked up on a map and it turned out that Borneo is right under Vietnam. One of my R&R trips was to go to Australia and the plane flew right over Borneo. I looked down at Borneo and remembered that missionary, I said a prayer for him at 30,000 feet.

My time in the military was more like a hostile mission's field. Sometimes we don't get to pick and choose our callings, just ask Joseph ... but like Joseph, God had a plan. I will say that through it all I found out how much God loved me which was more than I ever thought He would, I found forgiveness and a heart to forgive. My many adventures and the lessons learned has given me a testimony of the power of God and of what God has done for me. God always has a plan.

Many years later through no act of my own, I found myself in a position with plenty of time on my hands. I was without work for a long time. One day in the beginning of it all God told me to sit down at my computer and open my Bible. I didn't know it then but the impossible was about to take wings in me and now fourteen years later God has supplied all my needs. Now thirty-five charts, twenty-one bible studies, two books, many short stories and a few poems later I realize God has given me something very precious. He gave me a testimony of His grace and that is something to write about. Remember ... God has a plan!

---

<sup>17</sup> Jer. 29:11

2 Peter 1:10 (NASB), <sup>10</sup> “Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about **His calling and choosing you**; for as long as you **practice these things**, you will never stumble;”

I must say, that if I had an entire lifetime to do it in, I could not have planned out the life I have lived. The good, the bad, all brought together and laid at the cross. God always in control and He is glorified in story of my life. I never thought I had a gift or a talent except that by following God, He has brought it about. In some ways it kind of reminds me of Abraham’s story, maybe even David’s story and many of the New Testament believers also. It seems to be a pattern with God, for those who love Him and practice His commandments.

Can it be that some of us are just called to follow, to be the person in the church pew, the regular everyday person (faithful to the call), one of the many sheep that follow the shepherd Jesus? In the following, God will give to us a wonderful and beautiful testimony that we can one day exchange for a crown.

### **How is it with You?**



Not sure what God has called you to do? I would tell you to just start living and do what you already know is the right thing, trust God and He will direct your path. One day you will look back and see God’s calling on your life and how God has used you. Maybe you were never called to climb the highest mountain, or invent the lightbulb, walk on the moon. Maybe what God has called you to be was faithful to what He has given you, those kids need a mother and father for life, they need your example. When those you know are sick or injured and in the hospital, I bet they would love to see someone today, you could be that someone. Even if all these things do not describe your life, then can you at least give a glass of water in Jesus name? The list of the small things, the everyday things can go on forever. The key is to be faithful in what Jesus has already taught us and you shall do well in His Judgment Seat.

Then one day you will find yourself standing before Jesus. The books of your life will be opened. The books themselves will proclaim the works that are recorded in them and to whom they belong. People will come forward and give eye witness accounts to your acts of kindness, the words you spoke to them and the sharing of the gospel. Each and every deed and kind act even to the smallest of things that you had long ago forgotten about is now being evaluated.

Then the books of your life will be closed with no more need to reopen them. The evaluation of you is finished and Jesus stands to His feet. A crown is called for and an angel comes and hands it to Jesus. You didn't know this, but Jesus had been waiting for this moment for a long time, because He loves to give good things to those who love Him. As He reaches out to put the crown on your head you hear Him say "Well done good and faithful servant. I called you and you were faithful, you shall rule over many things."

FYI ... Faithfulness to God's calling on your life will always stand the test of fire on the last day. Be faithful to the call of God be true to what He has put inside you to do. Then one day you shall stand and shine among the saints who are forever with Him and you will find that it was worth it all. ... Amen



# The Meat of the Word



**Question:** "What is a parable?"<sup>18</sup>

**Answer:** A parable is, literally, something “cast alongside” something else. Jesus’ parables were stories that were “cast alongside” a truth in order to illustrate that truth. His parables were teaching aids and can be thought of as extended analogies or inspired comparisons. A common description of a parable is that it is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.

---

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/what-is-a-parable.html>

Hebrews 9:27 (KJV), And as it is appointed unto men once to die,  
but after this the judgment:

Luke 12:32 - Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good  
pleasure to give you the kingdom.



## Story Teaching


(A Parable for Believers)

### INTRODUCTION

Acts 2:17, “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,  
that I will pour out My Spirit On all flesh; your sons and your  
daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your  
old men shall dream dreams.”

**E**veryone dreams. While most dreams are at night, while we sleep there  
is a type of dream that comes from above which inspires and  
enlightens, or communicates a message to us. These dreams are  
special and should be considered a gift from above.<sup>1</sup> Sometimes we  
can have a dream in the middle of the day with our eyes wide open, we call these  
“Day Dreams.” Some call them visions or moments of inspiration depending on  
your heart’s desire at the time. For most of us, if we had such a dream we would  
consider it a miracle and so it was with me.

Story Teaching  
The Judgment Seat of Christ

ne day as I lay back in my easy chair I closed my eyes and dosed off for what I thought was just a moment. Suddenly there was a flash of brilliant light and the next thing I knew I was in another place and another time.

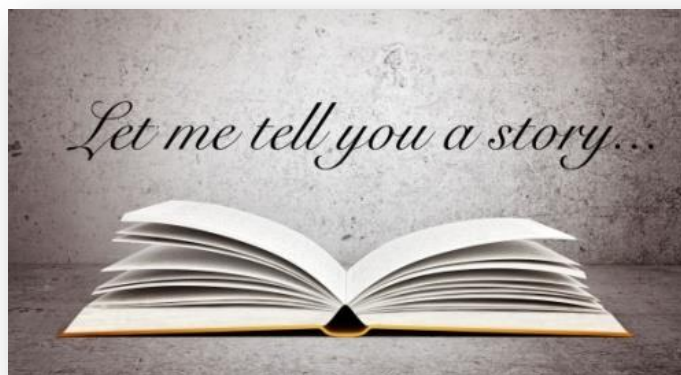


The Parable of

# The Judgment Seat



Romans 14:10-12 (NKJV), “Why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written: ‘As I live, says the LORD, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.’ So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.”





## Story Teaching The Judgment Seat of Christ

Hear me you sons and daughter of the Most High. Come to the Judgment Seat of Christ. The time has come to look at your life's work.

**M**y eyes opened to new surroundings and new smells of a wonderful nature. I sure wasn't in my big easy chair anymore. As I looked around I saw glorious and wonderful things to behold, not like anything I had ever seen or could have ever imagined. I could not tell you how long I was there just staring out at the beauty and wonder of it all. Then a beautiful angel dressed in a white robe with a golden sash came to me.

"I am here to escort you to your appointment, for as it is with all men, there is a time when a judgment is to be made, and a reward to be given whether good or bad.

"Am I dead?" I asked the angel. The angel reached out and touched my head with something. The next thing I knew I was standing in a great hall filled with a great multitude of people.

### THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

**S**omehow without being told, I knew what this was. This was the "Judgment Seat of Christ."<sup>2</sup> I wasn't quite sure how I got here, or even why I was here unless I was dead. Somehow in this place I found that I had understanding beyond anything I could have ever learned in school or from a book. The vastness of God I now understood, His Supreme Lordship over all I now understood, and His holiness I could now feel. I realized that my life and that which I gave myself to was not looking very good.<sup>3</sup> The question quickly ran through my mind, "What have I laid up for myself in heaven? What have I done to be rewarded for?"



## Story Teaching

### The Judgment Seat of Christ

In this great hall there was a throne befitting a King. It was slightly elevated above the rest of the hall by several steps which the one, who was to be judged, would ascend. As I looked around I noticed everyone had what appeared to be wood, hay, stubble and various types of precious stones at their feet. Some had gold mixed in and others had silver. Each person had a pile of various amounts of material, and each pile was a different size.

Without any effort of thought, I seemed to realize that what lay at our feet represented the sum of our life's work on earth. Not only did I understand this, but I knew it also represented how we lived our life. It represented our attitude towards others, and the habits we had allowed to creep into our life whether good or bad. The words of Jesus came to my mind, "if you love me, keep my commandments."<sup>4</sup> I began to think of how many times Jesus spoke of love<sup>5</sup> and if I had truly been that example of the love Jesus spoke about. It was too late now. I could not go back and relive my life, I had to stand on my record that was written in the books of heaven<sup>6</sup>, and hope that what was written was in my favor.

All I could do now was to plead for mercy and grace, as I had done so many times before. Now was the time that I had heard about for so long, but never really paid much attention to. Our lives were about to be examined in the light of what Jesus had called us to do while we were alive on earth. The smallest of our works to the mightiest of things that anyone could ever be called to do, all works was about to be revealed here. What we were about to experience was a judgment of our works.

We did not have to wait long for there appeared to us one who was full of glory and shone like the sun. He was dressed in white for He was holy and full of righteousness. My heart jumped with joy knowing this was Jesus, the Bridegroom, who had come for us in the clouds and brought us to His home. He would be our judge for He was our example on earth. He walked as we did. He was tempted as we were, and He paid the price for our sin. He alone was worthy to judge the fruit of our lives.



## Story Teaching

### The Judgment Seat of Christ

This was not a judgment of anyone's sin for that was dwelt with by Jesus on the cross, sins forgiven ... end of story. This was an evaluation of each person's works to determine how they would spend eternity ... forever.

Then I saw Jesus sitting on a throne on a raised platform so all could see Him. Each person assembled in this great hall ascended the steps one at a time. Each one's work, whether good or bad, followed them before the judgment seat to be judged.<sup>7</sup> Before the entire assembly of saints, each one's works, which were done in the flesh, were now on display.<sup>8</sup> Before each one, Jesus caused a fire to flare up in the pile of wood, hay and stubble which was at their feet.<sup>9</sup> For some this fire took only a moment to burn out while for others, it took longer. If everything that was in the piles burned up, that meant it failed the test of fire. There were those who had nothing left at their feet, for even though they had accepted Christ as the Savior, they never allowed Christ to change them. The fruit of their labor was still centered on themselves. They never learned to lay up treasures in heaven for themselves.<sup>10</sup>

However, there was, for many, a residue of works that withstood the test of fire. This residue represented works done for Christ, and the Kingdom of God. For some, what was leftover was small, but for others their residue of works represented almost their entire pile. These were many of the missionaries and individuals who laid down their lives as a testimony for Jesus Christ. They were the ones who had denied themselves on earth, and dedicated their lives as a servant of Jesus Christ. For these individuals, who stood before all who were assembled in that great hall, their works declared the relationship they had with Jesus Christ while on earth.

To each person who stood before Jesus they watched as an angel brought out the book of their life. As each person's book was opened, and to everyone's surprise the book of their life began to reveal the works and the deeds, both good and bad, that was written within them. There were also the witnesses that Jesus called forward. These testified of the nature of the person they knew. Some spoke of their giving, some spoke of sermons spoken and lessons taught. Other witnesses came forward to tell of a simple glass of water given, a cake made, a meal served, kindness shown.

## Story Teaching

### The Judgment Seat of Christ

Then Jesus spoke to each person of what had come their way in life and the reasons why. Answers to questions pondered long ago were now being answered and as every eye began to cry as they now understood why. They now understood it was always about Jesus. Reasons shadowed behind a glass darkly now made known. Why some were born to undeserving families, now revealed God's agents of love and kindness. They were that gift from God, that without them their birth family would have never known Jesus.

Now was the time that the things done in secret by those faithful to their calling would be rewarded in the open.<sup>11</sup> It was to this group of individuals, that their works withstood the test of fire and a reward was called for. Angels came to hand to Christ each person's reward, which was a crown. Christ took the crown of reward and placed it on their head for all to see.<sup>12</sup> There were no less than five different crowns that the Lord gave to those who deserved them.<sup>13</sup> There were many who had more than one crown, for their lives had been an example of selflessness and of giving to others over themselves. To these I heard the words "Well done faithful servant, you have been faithful in a few things, I will make you ruler over many things."

Now, it didn't take long before I saw an old friend named Aliyah ascend the steps and at her feet also was a pile of hay and stubble mixed with glimmers of gold and silver. As her pile burned away what was left were her many good and kind acts of giving. I saw in particular the Bible that she had given to me; here it stood the test of fire. The gold and silver glimmers were things given from her heart in the name of the Lord. There in her pile, what remained were things like; food that she had cooked and given to those who were without. Her acts of kindness and of caring for the needs of others, deserved and undeserved, remained unburned. Aliyah and all these others were more than deserving of eternal rewards.

To each person regardless of reward or not, Jesus gave an embrace of reassurance and acceptance that they had always been loved. Now for eternity they were home and forever they would be with the Lord.

Story Teaching  
The Judgment Seat of Christ

MY APPOINTMENT

Finally, the moment I had waited for and yet somehow dreaded was at hand. I too ascended the steps and stood before the Lord where my pile of wood, stubble and some precious stones lay at my feet for all to see. The precious stones represented the things I had made dear and precious in my life. Some of the stones were things of the world, and some were things of God. His eyes met mine and suddenly as if awakening from out of a fog, I was face to face with the One who had been there with me my entire life. Here stood my lifelong friend, whose presence I had only heard as a soft voice in my mind, I now stood before him face-to-face.<sup>14</sup> I had not recognized His face but I did recognize the sound of His voice<sup>15</sup> and the feel of His presence.



Even though this was my judgment of my works, I had no fear, it had all vanished. I had for so long feared the thought of judgment, partially because of the unknown, also because I had never felt good about myself and so I always feared the worst. Then I realized that Jesus was focused more on the reward that He longed to give me. I knew that it is Jesus who gives good things, for all good things come from our Father's hand.<sup>16</sup>

Before I knew it my pile of hay, stubble and precious stones had vanished like the others, but to my joy there lay at my feet still the residue of works done for the Lord. Works that had gone on ahead of me that I had long forgotten about or never considered them of any importance. I never thought that even the small things like a glass of water, when given in Jesus name, would be rewarded in heaven.<sup>17</sup>

I knew that these good works had withstood the test of fire. They were the things done in Jesus' name. The building of great structures or great achievements though done for the glory of God and used for such, too often brought honor to the individual. Here, there would be no rewards for those. The individual had their reward, through the applause and gratitude of men. They had been lifted up to

## Story Teaching

### The Judgment Seat of Christ

lofty positions and given large financial rewards. These things perished in the test of fire.

The greatest rewards seemed to be for the thankless and most unrecognized tasks. Many rewards were given to the missionaries and to those who were persecuted and martyred in the mission fields around the world. Christ assured them that their labor was not in vain. Then there were those who gave and were blessed, in secret deeds and gifts of love, which no one knew about. These were the small blessings that God has given to each of us so that we could bless others in Jesus name. When given as such, without any consideration of reward or recognition from man, these were the works that were sent on ahead to the Judgment Seat to be rewarded at this time. The small things that each person can give to reach out to another, to lift their spirit, are those that speak of love. God has given to each one of us love, and when love becomes our reason for giving, and then rewards are stored up in heaven. This is true love, in that love will not seek its own,<sup>18</sup> but does what is best for another.

As I stood before Christ, the pile at my feet was now reduced to ashes. I was still thankful that even though I did not have a residue of works like some, I was just happy to see that there was something at my feet that had stood the test of fire. Jesus bent down and picked up what was left over. He held it out for me to see so that I would know what it was made of. I saw in His hand a life that had been lived as a testimony for Him, though not perfect, for no one was found to be perfect.<sup>19</sup> Jesus pointed to that testimony which represented my life and told me, “As it is now, so you were never out of my hand.” There was more in His hand to be seen. Jesus showed me the work that had brought honor and glory to Him and His Father; these too now lay in His hand. He pointed out several small things that to me were really nothing and had been forgotten about long ago. Jesus told me they were special to Him. Though we may forget through the years the things done for the Lord, rest assured heaven keeps an eternal record.<sup>20</sup>

As Christ examined each piece of my residue of works that He held in His hand, it caused Him to smile for my faith in Him which led me to do such things. He pointed out the things which showed little faith, but then He pointed to others that He said showed great faith in Him. He reminded me of what He had said while on earth, that “Without faith it is impossible to please God.”<sup>21</sup> Without any thought

## Story Teaching

### The Judgment Seat of Christ

or hesitation I fell on my knees before Him and confessed what I already knew in my heart and believed in my mind, that Jesus Christ is Lord.<sup>22</sup>

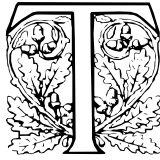
Jesus lifted me back up to my feet, for there was yet another piece of work that was different than the others. Jesus looked at it and told me it represented those works that were considered bad, or simply neglected by omission. Even these were judged here.<sup>23</sup> They did not represent my sin for that was already judged at the cross and covered by the blood of Christ. They were acts of charity that I had passed by, offers of help I did not make, and kind words I had kept to myself. Then again, I remembered the words of Jesus, “Inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.”<sup>24</sup> What was really being judged here was how I had allowed God’s love to reign through me. How I had allowed the nine elements of God’s love to permeate my life and to influence others.<sup>25</sup>

There were parts of my life that I had become ashamed of. As I stood before Jesus, I saw the impact of the times I had not always lived my life for God. I had been too self-centered and motivated by earthly and material things. While I stood in disbelief and shame of this revelation, I saw in His hand the work, which could have been a blessing, suddenly vanish. My reward for these things was no reward. There was nothing to show for those times in my life, I had not honored God. I believe if there was any sadness in heaven it was at this time. Many rewards were never given that could have been. There were many reasons for this, but through it all I realized how much God had wanted to bless me with good things. I had tied His hands by a lack of faith and a self-serving motive that was only benefiting me. Though I had tried to live my life for God, I had also made many selfish decisions that in heaven caused God to withhold His blessings. I did not know it then, but now I understand how it could have been, if I had allowed God to direct my life.

Almost everyone at this judgment had some type of reward, a crown for work they did in the name of Jesus. They were the ones who laid up for themselves “Treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”<sup>26</sup> There were a few whose entire life’s work had burned up and there was nothing to be rewarded for, but they found a reason to rejoice for they had made it to heaven, and that alone was worth rejoicing over.<sup>27</sup>

Story Teaching  
The Judgment Seat of Christ

MY OWN SCARS



There was one last thing the Lord said to me. He closed His hand and then opened it again and as I looked, I saw my heart in His hand. Oh, it looked like how a heart is supposed to look, but at this time and in this place it was easy for me to see my wounds and hurts. Many of the old wounds had healed but left their mark on my heart in the form of a scar. Some of the wounds were still fresh and bleeding. Jesus pointed to each one and told me He died for that one and that one too.

As He pointed to each one of the scars of my heart it slowly began to vanish. Jesus was healing the hurts and the scars that I had been carrying around like baggage. I could see that some scars I had caused myself. They were unnecessary because they showed my lack of faith and trust in God. Soon, all the wounds and scars had vanished and as they did, so did my remembrance of them. In heaven there is no sadness, no anger and no pain.<sup>28</sup>

Jesus then said to me, “I want to show you my scars.” Then out of nowhere, I suddenly noticed them. I saw the holes in His wrists and feet where they nailed Him to the cross, I also noticed the scars on His forehead from the crown of thorns they had placed on His head, and as He opened His robe I could see the scar where they had pierced His side.<sup>29</sup>

He said, “I chose these scars for you, and when you understand this, you will understand the love I have for you. There are many who have awakened to this love and shared it with others. Many are here now because my love was shared with them. In this, you have honored Me. Well done My good and faithful servant.”<sup>30</sup>

Then suddenly two angels appeared, not one but two, and in their hands were the most beautiful crowns I could imagine. Jesus took them both and placed them on my head and as He did I heard the praise and shouts of joy from the angels. They celebrated each and every crown handed out to each person at this judgment seat of Christ. I looked back at Jesus and I could see His tears of joy that He had as He rewarded those who loved Him. Soon I felt my own tears of joy running down my face as I realized that it had all been worth it.



Story Teaching  
The Judgment Seat of Christ

"Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father." Mt.13:43

The End




The *Poetry* of it all



# The *Poetry* of it all

## A Few Introductory Words First

 never saw myself as a poet type of guy, and it wasn't until someone personally challenged me to write a poem that I consider it ... for about two seconds. At first my only reaction was no, and the strangest thing happened, I heard a voice inside me say, "Yes you are." Then I argued with this voice, but it got me nowhere. Every time I said "no" he would say "yes you are." The Holy Spirit knows how to get His way, doesn't He?

After three days of going back and forth with myself and the Holy Spirit telling me that I was going to do this, I sat down in front of my computer and asked the Lord what I should write. He said to open your study on the Judgment Seat and start there. To make a long story short, that's exactly, what I did, and three hours later what is written on the following pages is exactly as it was given to me and I wrote it down. After a few days a second part was added. After four hours of obeying God I am more than happy to share with you what God shared with me. It is much the same as the Judgment Seat story ... but different.

May God speak to your heart as you read this poem.


Shalom Adonai to you.

## THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

(Taken from the study of the same name)

Author: Steve Kennard /per Holy Spirit



ne night as I sat in my easy chair, I finally had a moment of peace, so I closed my eyes for what I thought was a short time. I felt a calm come over me as I finally let go and began to relax in my chair. In that brief moment somehow within me I knew everything would be okay.

Suddenly it came as a burst of light,  
Before me a vision could be seen very bright.

Judgment Seat:

I stood in a great room filled with glorious beauty.<sup>31</sup>  
I was not alone for there with me were all the saints,  
And like all the others I realized I had no complaints.

Now piles of wood, hay, and stubble all lay at our feet.<sup>32</sup>  
I knew this represented the sum of our lives,  
While we lived, worked and were for hire,  
But here in this place would our pile of works stand the test of fire?

Work done for self, or work done for God,  
All were about to be looked at and tested from above.<sup>33</sup>

Suddenly a fire arose and consumed each pile,<sup>34</sup>  
Of the former life that was for hire.  
For some there was nothing left, but for most,  
There was the evidence of their hearts true desire.

## The *Poetry* of it all

A crown of reward was commanded, for some more than one.<sup>35</sup>  
All these were given by God's only Son.  
Tears of joy ran down His cheek,  
For blessed are the pure in heart and blessed are the meek,  
For they shall see Him if they truly seek.

### Personal Judgment:

Then I found myself ascending the stairs of judgment,  
The timing was not mine to choose,  
All of my life's work, my pile followed me up the stairs too.  
For all that I knew, I had nothing to lose.

My fate I had accepted,  
But still my head hung low for what I expected.  
In my pile of wood, hay and stubble, was there more of God,  
Or was it all wrong as I suspected?<sup>36</sup>

The fire rose up at my feet and for all that I could see,  
My pile of wood, hay and stubble had turned to ashes,  
Too often the work of the flesh and of the spirit clashes.<sup>37</sup>

Where was the work done for Him?<sup>38</sup>  
Now was the time judgment would begin.

Would there be anything left to show of a life I claimed was lived for Him,  
To show that once in my life I was blind, but then I could see.  
Would there be anything left to prove that my life was not all about me?<sup>39</sup>

To my surprise as I dared to look down,  
A small residue of things did lay there on the ground.  
Jesus picked up what was left and showed it to me, the things of which He found.

As he held them in His hand,  
He looked at me and I at Him.  
I think now I understand.

## The *Poetry* of it all

He said this one showed faith, and that one too,  
Remember all good things come from your Father's hand directly to you.<sup>40</sup>

### A Closer Look:

Now as I looked into his hand, He closed it, and then opened it again.  
This time in no small part,  
Setting in His hand I saw my own heart.  
Wounded and bleeding, I knew it was Jesus that I was needing.

Jesus pointed to every scar, and told me He died for this one and that one too.<sup>41</sup>  
As he did each scar disappeared and so did my memory of it.  
The origins of them I knew, for here there was no faking,  
But the other scars I saw were clearly of my own making.

One by one they vanished as my heart was being healed.<sup>42</sup>  
I suddenly felt free from all of life's dispersions,  
For in this place of heavenly origins,  
I was truly a new person.

A reward was called for and angels came running,  
Not one crown, but two they carried,  
Amazingly beautiful and exquisitely stunning.

Then a door opened into eternity and oh how all the angels sang,  
For my new life in glory all the bells of heaven rang.  
"Welcome home," all the saints sang.

### A Word for You:

Know this, that one day a reward will be offered,  
For the treasures you've laid up.  
May it be that all your life's work will not be found corrupt?

May your pile of wood, hay and stubble not be made up of any leaven,  
For without it is the Kingdom of Heaven.

The *Poetry* of it all

A reward is waiting, one day yours to see.  
For the glories of Heaven are beyond what you thought it would be.<sup>43</sup>  
Someday in a glorious place of new beginnings,  
The new person in you we shall all see.

Someday in a new home you will find,<sup>44</sup>  
A place that was reserved for you from the beginning of time.

In that glorious place the saints of all the ages await,  
For with God there is no mistake.  
That place for you He will not forsake.

It is coming at the time appointed for you.  
A reward for the life you live, and the things you do.

Your heart cries out for a place it has never seen,  
Eternity waits, the place of the great unseen.

So my friend I offer you all this wisdom,  
That I may see you again somewhere in the Kingdom.

Eternity:

Forever and ever to God be the glory,  
But I tell you this is not the end of the story.

One day there shall be a new heaven and a new earth,<sup>45</sup>  
Only then we shall all return to the place of our birth.  
All shall be perfect and righteousness shall reign,  
For the tabernacle of God shall come down to the new earth, there it shall remain.<sup>46</sup>  
He is our God and we His people.<sup>47</sup>

There is coming a time when righteousness is all we know.<sup>48</sup>  
We shall all eat of the Tree of Life,  
For as it is in Heaven there shall be no strife.

The *Poetry* of it all

A river shall flow from the throne of God,  
Seven new things He makes.<sup>49</sup>  
No one thinks that's odd.

Ten-thousand years from now, you might wonder if this world had ever  
been unkind,  
For the Lord had removed the memory of it from your mind.<sup>50</sup>

Faith, Hope and Love all come from His hand,  
Our hearts now have their freedom somewhere in a distant land.

A gift from your Creator, compliments of His love.<sup>51</sup>  
That's life in the Kingdom somewhere in Heaven above.



The End





## Additional Scriptures for the Judgment Seat of Christ

Romans 14:9-12 (NASB), <sup>9</sup> For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. <sup>10</sup> But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup> For it is written, “AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD.” <sup>12</sup> So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

2 Cor. 5:6-10 (NASB), <sup>6</sup> Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord— <sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight— <sup>8</sup> we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

John 5:22 (NASB), <sup>22</sup> For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,

James 4:14 (NASB), “Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.”

1 Cor. 3:9-15 (NASB), <sup>9</sup> For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, God’s building. <sup>10</sup> According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it. <sup>11</sup> For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if

any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, <sup>13</sup> each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is *to be* revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. <sup>14</sup> If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

Revelation 22:12 (NASB), <sup>12</sup> "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to render to every man according to **what he has done**."

Matthew 12:36 (NASB), <sup>36</sup> But I tell you that every careless **word that people speak**, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment.

1 Cor. 4:3-5 (NASB), <sup>3</sup> "But to me it is a very small thing that I may be examined by you, or by *any* human <sup>[b]</sup>court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. <sup>4</sup> For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Therefore do not go on <sup>[c]</sup>passing judgment before <sup>[d]</sup>the time, *but wait* until the Lord comes who will both bring to light **the things hidden** in the darkness and disclose the **motives of men's hearts**; and then each man's praise will come to him from God."

Luke 8:18 (NASB), <sup>18</sup> So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him *more* shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him."

Matthew 25:21 (NASB), <sup>21</sup> “His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you **in charge of many things**; enter into the joy of your master.’”

Hebrews 6:1-2 (NASB), <sup>1</sup>” Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, <sup>2</sup>of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and **eternal judgment**.”

Scriptural Reference's

---

<sup>1</sup> James 1:17

<sup>2</sup> Also known as the Bema Seat Judgment

<sup>3</sup> Mt.6:19-21

<sup>4</sup> Jn.14:15

<sup>5</sup> Jn.3:34; 15:12,17; Ro.13:8; 1 Thess.4:9; 1 Pet.1:22; 1 Jn.3:11,23 4:7,11,12; 2 Jn.1:5

<sup>6</sup> Mi.3:16-18

<sup>7</sup> Rev.14:3

<sup>8</sup> Mt.6:4,6,18; Mk.4:2; Lu.18:7

<sup>9</sup> 1 Cor.3:11-15

<sup>10</sup> Mt.6:20

<sup>11</sup> Mt.6:6,18

<sup>12</sup> 1 Cor.3:8

<sup>13</sup> 1 Cor.9:25-27; Rev.2:10; 1 Pet.5:2-4; 2 Tim.4:8; 1 Thess.2:19-20

<sup>14</sup> Jn.15:15

<sup>15</sup> Jn.10:27

<sup>16</sup> Mt.7:11; Lu.11:13

<sup>17</sup> Mk.9:41

<sup>18</sup> 1 Cor.13:5

<sup>19</sup> Ec.7:20; Ro.3:10; Jn.1:8-10

<sup>20</sup> Mal.3:16

<sup>21</sup> Heb.11:6

<sup>22</sup> Ro.14:11

<sup>23</sup> 2 Cor.5:10

<sup>24</sup> Mt.25:45

<sup>25</sup> 1 Cor.13:4-6

<sup>26</sup> Mt.6:19-20

<sup>27</sup> 1 Cor.3:12-15

<sup>28</sup> Rev.21:4

<sup>29</sup> Jn.20:20

<sup>30</sup> Mt.25:21

<sup>31</sup> 2 Cor. 5:10

<sup>32</sup> 1 Cor. 3:12

<sup>33</sup> Mt. 10:42

<sup>34</sup> 1 Cor. 3:13

<sup>35</sup> 1 Cor. 3:14

<sup>36</sup> 1 Cor. 3:15

<sup>37</sup> Mt. 6:19-21

<sup>38</sup> Col. 3:17

<sup>39</sup> 1 Cor. 3:10-23

<sup>40</sup> James 1:17

<sup>41</sup> Ro. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; 1 Peter 3:18

<sup>42</sup> Ps. 55:22; Mt. 11:28-30

<sup>43</sup> 1 Cor. 2:9

<sup>44</sup> Jn. 14:2; 2 Cor. 5:1

<sup>45</sup> Rev. 21:1

<sup>46</sup> Rev. 21:3

<sup>47</sup> Rev. 21:2

<sup>48</sup> Rev. 21:4

<sup>49</sup> Isa. 66:22; Rev. 21:1, 2, 9-23, 24-27, 22:1, 2, 3-5

Seven New Things ie: New Heaven, New Earth, New City (Jerusalem), Nations, River of Life, Tree of Life, God's Throne

<sup>50</sup> Isa. 65:17, Rev. 21:4

<sup>51</sup> Jn. 3:16