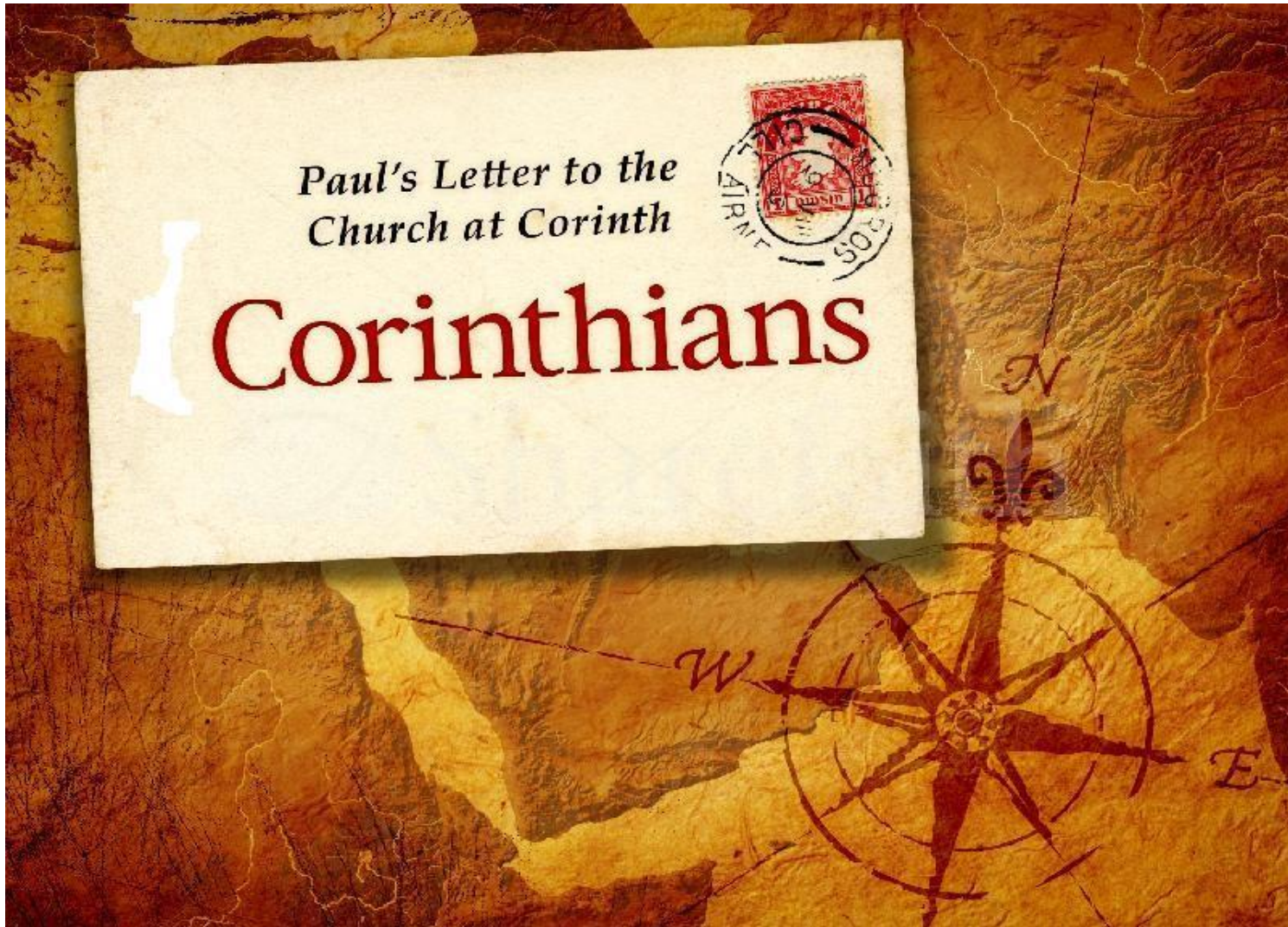


2 Cor 5:10 The Judgment Seat (*Bema*) of Christ



Outline Chp 5:1- 21



- 5:1-4 We Have a Building From God
- 5:5-9 The Spirit As a Pledge and Our Ambition
- 5:10 The Judgment Seat (*Bema*) of Christ
- 5:11-15 The Love of Christ Motivates Us
- 5:16-17 A New Creation
- 5:18-21 The Message of Reconciliation



MAJOR JUDGMENTS BY GOD

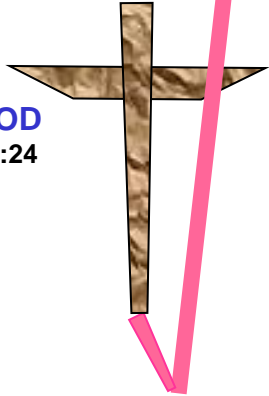
1. AT THE FALL
GEN 2:15- 3:19
ROM 5:12-19



2, THE FLOOD
GEN 6:1- 7:24



3. THE CROSS
ROM 5:8, 15-21



7 YEARS

1000 YEARS

CREATION

NOAH

PENTECOST

Genesis 3:17-19 1. God's Judgment at the Fall

17a Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it';

17b Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it All the days of your life.

18a "Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;

19a By the sweat of your face You will eat bread,

Romans 5:12-19

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

3. The Judgment of the Cross

- Sins and the sin nature have been judged by Christ's death. The sins of the world have been propitiated and His death unto the sin nature separated us from it. 1 John 2:2, Rom 6:10
- The believer has been in court, condemned, sentenced, and executed in the person of Christ.*
- The cross completed this judgment upon sin.*
- "It is finished" (John 19:30). It therefore becomes something to believe for salvation.*
- 1 John 2:2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.
- 2 Cor 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

* Chafer



MAJOR JUDGMENTS BY GOD

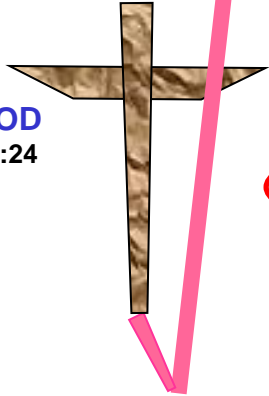
1. AT THE FALL
GEN 2:15- 3:19
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GEN 6:1- 7:24



3. THE CROSS
ROM 5:8, 15-21



5. JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST (BEMA)
2 COR 5:10
ROM 14:10-12; 1COR 3:8-15

6. THE NATIONS
MT 25:31-46

2ND COMING

RAPTURE

DAY OF CHRIST

4. TRIBULATION
(DAN'S 70th WK.)
MT 24:3-31; REV 6:1-19:31

9. PURGING OF THE EARTH
2 PET 3:10-12



8. GREAT WHITE THRONE
REV 20:11



7. SATAN, BEAST & FALSE PROPHET
REV 20:10



7 YEARS

1000 YEARS

CREATION

NOAH

PENTECOST

Judgments relating to Believers and Unbelievers

- A believer in the Scriptures is one who has put his faith and trust in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Rom 8:1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- Rom 14:12b For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.
- An unbeliever in the Scriptures is one who has rejected Jesus Christ as God and His work on the cross.
- John 3:18b He who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
- Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

5. Judgment of The Nations (Matt. 25:31-46)

1. **Time:** Immediately after the Tribulation and 2nd Advent - Matt. 24:29-31; 25:31
2. **Place:** On earth – Matt. 25:31
3. **Subjects:** The living (all nations) – Matt. 25:32
4. **Basis:** Acceptance / Rejection of Christ

Background from Matt. 25:

- 31 "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.
- 32 "All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;
- 33 and He will put the **sheep on His right**, and the **goats on the left**.
 - a. **Believers** – works out from faith by accepting Christ's messengers
– Mt. 25:34-40,46
 - b. **Unbelievers** – no works out from faith by rejecting Christ's messengers
– Mat.25:41-46; John 13:20

5. Judgment of The Nations (cont.)

1. **Time:** Immediately after the Tribulation and 2nd Advent - Matt. 24:29-31; 25:31
2. **Place:** On earth – Matt. 25:31
3. **Subjects:** The living (all nations) – Matt. 25:32
4. **Basis:** Acceptance / Rejection of Christ
 - a. **Believers** – works out from faith by accepting Christ's messengers
– Mt. 25:34-40,46
 - b. **Unbelievers** – no works out from faith by rejecting Christ's messengers
– Mat.25:41-46; John 13:20
5. **Conditions:**
 - a. No resurrection mentioned
 - b. No books [of judgment] mentioned
 - c. Separation is made & judgment given before the reason is stated
– Matt 25:32-34
6. **Judge:** Son of Man (Lord Jesus Christ) – Matt. 25:31, John 5:22,27
7. **Results:**
 - a. Believers to Kingdom and to eternal life – Matt. 25:34,46
 - b. Unbelievers to lake of fire – Matt. 25:41

8. The Great White Throne (Rev. 20:11-15)

1. **Time:** Immediately after the Millennial Kingdom Rev. 20:7-11
2. **Place:** In the heavens before the Great White Throne – Rev. 20:11
3. **Subjects:** The dead (from all ages) - Rev. 20:12,13
4. **Basis:** Rejection of Christ
 - a. Unbelievers – not in the Book of Life – Rev. 20:12,15
 - b. Their works (self-righteousness) are judged from the Book of Works – Rev. 20:12-13
5. **Conditions:**
 - a. Resurrection mentioned
 - b. Books mentioned
 - c. Books carefully examined & judgment after the reason stated – Rev. 20:11-15
6. **Judge:** Lord Jesus Christ – Rev. 20:11; John 5:22,27
7. **Results:** Unbelievers to lake of fire – Rev. 20:14,15

Today's Verse



¹⁰ 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.

¹⁰ For it is necessary in the nature of the case for all of us to be openly shown as to our true character before the judgment seat of Christ, in order that each one may receive the things which were practiced through the agency of our body, whether they were good or bad [worthless]. Wuest

¹⁰ 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.



For it is necessary [for] us all to be revealed before the judgment seat of Christ.

Interlinear

it is necessary - *dei* - an impersonal verb, signifying "it is necessary" or "one must,"

us all – all believers [none excepted]

to be revealed - *phaneroō* - in the passive voice - to be manifested - to be revealed in one's true character - we are acted upon by Christ

before - *emprosthen* - is used of place or position only; with the meaning "in the sight of a person," "before" or "in the presence of;" – **which is it?**

¹⁰ 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.



judgment seat of Christ

judgment seat - *bēma* - primarily, “a step, a pace,” as in Acts 7:5, translated “the step,” was used to denote a raised platform, reached by steps.

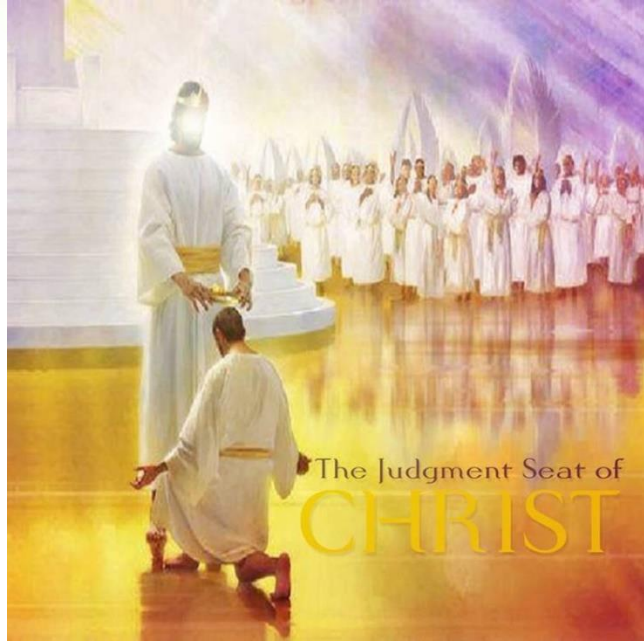
- In Grecian games in Athens it was called the “*bema*” or “reward seat.” From here the umpire rewarded all contestants. It was never used of a judicial bench.

J. D. Pentecost

- Thus it is better to refer to the “Judgment Seat of Christ” as the “Reward Seat of Christ.”

Molloy

Which is the correct picture of the *bema* from Scripture?



¹⁰ 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.



that each one may be recompensed [for] the things [done] through the body

Interlinear

that – with a purposed that

each one – believers [apparently one on one]

may be recompensed [for] - *komizō* - in the middle voice, "to bear for oneself," hence "to receive back, recover,"

so that each one may receive [his pay]

Amplified

- Eph 6:8a Knowing that for whatever good anyone does, he will receive his reward from the Lord. Amplified

¹⁰ 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.



the things [done] through the body

the things done = the believer's works he has done
during his Christian life

according to or in correspondence with

what things he practiced

practiced - *prassō* - of a course of action or conduct,
especially of right, duty, virtue, to do,
meaning to exercise, practice

Phil 4:9 The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰ 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.



whether good or bad

good - *agathos* - being "good" in its character (God's) or constitution, is beneficial in its effect

Here are a few aspects of good works:*

- The entire plan for good works has been predetermined by God
- We are the vessels He uses to implement His plan - Eph 2:10
- God is the one who energizes us both to will & do His plan Phil 2:13
- God is also the one who begins the good work & completes it- Phil 1:6
- God's criteria for good works = It fulfills His eternal purpose
- Which is declaring, revealing, sharing His glory
- And then being glorified through our (His) work
- They are imperishable (gold, silver, precious stones) - 1Cor 3:14

¹⁰ 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.



bad - *phaulos* - common, bad, in the sense of being worthless or contemptible; *phaulos* is often used with one's practices to indicate "evil or wicked" practices

Thus "bad" works are our worthless practices – worthless to God in that:*

- The source is not Christ - John 15:4,5
- They are not out of faith – thus can't please God - Heb 11:6
- They do not glorify God – only good works glorify God
- 1Pet 2:12
- They are perishable (wood, hay stubble) - 1Cor 3:13,15
- They will be burned ("katakaio" – lit: "burned down",
intensive = totally consumed) - 1Cor 3:15

Rom 14:10 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.



¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹² So then each one of us will **give an account of himself** to God.

1 Cor. 3:8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive **his own reward according** to his own labor.

¹¹ For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

¹² Now if **any man builds on the foundation** with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³ 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**.

¹⁴ If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he **will receive a reward**.

¹⁵ If any man's work is burned up, **he will suffer loss**; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

Final Thoughts *



- The doctrine of rewards must be considered an essential companion doctrine to the doctrine of saving grace.
- Since the saved one is in no way allowed to contribute to the ground of his acceptance,
- it becomes certain that his service is not credited to his salvation;
- therefore, his service is subject the rather to rewards, which are the divine acknowledgment of the sacrifice and service rendered.
- This judgment is wrought at the *Bema*, which is “the judgment seat of Christ.”

* Chafer