

Sunday, May 18, 2025

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: There is an Evaluation Day Coming

Series: God Will Evaluate and
Give Rewards to Believers ... 1

Text: Matthew 25:14 - 30; 2 Corinthians 5:1 - 10
1 Corinthians 3:1 - 15

Purpose: I want to PERSUADE my congregation that there is coming an EVALUATION of every BELIEVER; the subject of which is NOT salvation but rewards!

Introduction:

Thursday, May 15th we completed a brief Bible study on chapter 2 of Galatians; there are a few Bible students that regard the writing of James as a contradiction to the writings of Paul. Paul declares that people are justified before God by GRACE alone; James declares that GRACE is evidenced by works before people to whom we are called to witness.

~ We will begin a devotional series on the Book of James on June 1. In preparation for that series we will share a two-part devotional on the coming 'Evaluation of Believers.'

1. Evaluation Based on Endowments:

~ Matthew 25:14 - 30

~ Review overall context

~ vs. 14 – 15, Master entrusted according to the ability of each one

~ vs. 16 – 18, how each servant administered the property

~ vs. 19, the Master comes to settle the accounts

~ vs. 20 – 23, the Master meets with the servants who received five and two talents. To each he said, "*Well done, good and faithful servant.*"

~ vs. 24 – 30: this servant regarded his master as unfair/thief, vs. 24

~ this servant was controlled by fear, 25

~ the master did not correct him but called him lazy, 26

~ vs. 27 – 30, the result for the third servant

2. Evaluation Based on Individual Motivation:

~ 2 Corinthians 5:1 – 10

~ vs. 1 – 5, "For we know..."

~ vs. 6, "So we are always of good courage." Recall Matthew 25:25, "afraid"

~ vs. 7, "for we walk by faith, not by sight."

~ vs. 8, "*Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.*"

See Philipians 1:18 – 26

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

THIS WAS PAUL'S MOTIVATION; John, is it yours?

~ vs. 10, "*For we all must appear before the judgment seat (#968, bema) of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.*"

Romans 14:10, "*Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God;*"

3. Evaluation Based on Construction Material:

~ 1 Corinthians 3:1 - 15

~ vs. 1 – 4, the believers are described as being people of the flesh, as infants! Why?

~ vs. 5 – 9, the believers in Corinth aligned themselves to various teachers failing to see the sovereignty of the Lord God.

~ vs. 10 – 11, Paul reveals that building the kingdom of God involves more than one servant.

~ vs. 12 – 15, Paul reveals that there are various materials that can be used in the building of the kingdom; wood, hay, straw, in my understanding, represent human effort and planning but gold, silver, precious stones represent that which is spiritual in response to our prayers and obedience to God's holy Word.

~ vs. 13, "*for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire,*"

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

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

Conclusion:

1 Corinthians 4:1 – 2, "*This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. (2) Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.*"