

The Judgement Seat of Christ

1. **1CO 3:10** By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But **each one should be careful how he builds.** 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 **If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw,** 13 **his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work.** 14 **If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward.** 15 **If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.**
2. **2CO 5:7** We live by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 10 For **we must ALL appear before THE JUDGMENT SEAT (Gk Bema) OF CHRIST, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.**
3. **ROM 14:10** You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For **we will all stand before GOD'S JUDGMENT SEAT.** 11 It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.'" 12 So then, **each of us will give an account of HIMSELF to God.**

Just as there are degrees of punishment in Hell, there are degrees of reward in heaven. The way we live our Christian lives on earth will most assuredly affect our status and rewards in eternity. Dependability on earth will result in greater responsibility in heaven. There will be tears of both joy and sorrow in heaven. Those of sorrow will be over our own failings AFTER we became Christians, concerning what we did wrongly, as well as what we should or could have done for others. There are five different crowns of reward mentioned in the bible:

I. The Crown of Life This is the martyr's crown, and is mentioned twice in the Bible. You might think a martyr is one who dies physically for Jesus. No. The martyr dies first to self, crucified on the cross of Christ, and may or may not die physically for Christ.

1. **JAM 1:12** Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive **THE CROWN OF LIFE** that God has promised to those who love him.
2. **REV 2:10** Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you **THE CROWN OF LIFE.**

II. The Crown of Glory This is the Elder's or Pastor's crown, given by the Chief Shepherd when He shall appear.

3. **1PE 5:2** Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive **THE CROWN OF GLORY** that will never fade away.

III. The Crown of Rejoicing This is the Soul Winner's crown. Those brought to Jesus by us will be our "Crown of Rejoicing".

4. **1TH 2:19** For what is our hope, or joy, or **CROWN OF REJOICING?** Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? 20 For you are our glory and joy.
5. **PHI 4:1** Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, **my joy and crown,** that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends!

IV. The Crown of Righteousness This is the Crown of those who "love His appearing" and will be given in "that day"--- The Day of His Appearing.

6. **2TI 4:8** Now there is in store for me **THE CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,** which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

V. The Crown Imperishable (Incorruptible) This is the "Victor's Crown", and is for those who "keep their body under", who do not yield to their fleshy lusts. Those who do not permit themselves to be diverted from the Master's work by worldly amusements and pleasure. If we do not want to be "ashamed at His coming" (1JO 2:28), let us see to it that we keep our body "under" control of our spirit and so live that we shall inherit this crown!

7. **1CO 9:25** And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for **AN IMPERISHABLE CROWN.** 26 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. 27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.
8. **1JO 2:28** And now, little children, abide in Him; that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

Found in JONATHAN EDWARDS' Diary: RESOLVED: To endeavor to obtain for myself as much happiness in the other world as I possibly can, with all the power, might, vigor and vehemence, yea VIOLENCE, I am capable of, or can bring myself to exert, in any way that can be thought of.

9. **EPH 2:8** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For **we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus TO DO GOOD WORKS, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**
10. **JOB 34:10** “So listen to me, you men of understanding. Far be it from God to do evil, from the Almighty to do wrong. 11 **He repays a man for what he has done; he brings upon him what his conduct deserves.** 12 It is unthinkable that God would do wrong, that the Almighty would pervert justice.
11. **PSA 62:11** One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, O God, are strong, 12 and that **you, O Lord, are loving. Surely you will reward each person according to what he has done.**
12. **MAT 7:1** “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For **in the same way you judge others, you will be judged,** and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.
13. **LUK 14:12** Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. 13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, 14 and you will be blessed. **Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.**”
14. **ROM 2:1** You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. 2 Now we know that God’s judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. 3 So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God’s judgment? 4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness leads you toward repentance? 5 But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God’s wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. 6 **God “will give to each person according to what he has done.”** 7 **To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.** 8 **But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.** 9 **There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile;** 10 **but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.** 11 **For God does not show favoritism.** 12 All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. 13 For **it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.** 14 (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, 15 since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.) 16 This will take place on the day when God will judge men’s secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.
15. **1CO 4:5** Therefore **judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and WILL EXPOSE THE MOTIVES OF MEN’S HEARTS.** At that time each will receive his praise from God.
16. **EPH 6:7** Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, 8 because **you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.**
17. **COL 3:23** **Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,** 24 **since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.** It is the Lord Christ you are serving. 25 Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.
18. **REV 22:12** “Behold, I am coming soon! **My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.** 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. 14 “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.
19. **1Co 11:31** But **if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.** 32 When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.
20. **JAM 3:1** Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because **you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.**
21. **HEB 4:12** For **the word of God is living and active.** Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; **it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.** 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.
22. **MAT 12:36** But I tell you that **men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken.**
23. **LUK 12:2** **There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known.**
24. **1CO 4:3** I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. 4 My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. **It is the Lord who judges me.** 5 Therefore **judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men’s hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God.**
25. **ECC 12:13** Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. 14 **For God will bring EVERY deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.**

God will not only judge our Actions, but also our Thoughts, Words, Motives, and Intentions.