

## 1 Corinthians 3:10-6:20

### “You are More Significant than Perhaps You Realize”

February 18, 2024

**1 Corinthians 3:14** If any man’s work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward (Gr *misthos*). *Misthos* = pay, wages, recompense

**Romans 4:4** Now to the one who works, his wage (Gr *misthos*) is not credited as a favor (Gr *charis*), but as what is due.

5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,

The reward at the Judgment Seat of Christ is not eternal life; that is a gift, not a reward. The reward is compensation for a life lived in the body to the glory of God.

**1 Corinthians 3:16** Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? *The local body of believers is in itself a temple of God.*

**6:19** Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? *Your own body individually is itself also a temple of God.*

Our instruction between **3:16** and **6:19** is on *how to not suffer loss of reward at the Judgment Seat of Christ.*

**I. 3:17-Ch 5** – Do not become puffed up in human reason and logic. *The boastful pride of life.*

**3:18-20** Human reasoning has its own answers to questions of our existence, and God has His answers, and the spiritual man is to derive his answers to these issues from the Word of God, not from the logic of man. Issues such as,

- The meaning of life
- The origin of the universe and of the species
- The origin of human binary-ness and the normative family structure
- Value of human life as image of God
- Fallen nature of human being
- What’s “beyond the stars?”

In **Ch 5**, they were celebrating the sexual immorality of a believer, when they should have been grieving.

**II. 6:1-8** – Don’t demand to be right and don’t seek vindication for yourself. *The lust of the flesh.*

In this passage, Paul reminds us that we will one day judge the world, and even judge angels. See also **Matthew 19:27-30**; **2 Timothy 2:11-13**; **Rom 8:16,17**; **Rev 5:8-10**; **2 Pet 2:4**; **Jude 6**. It appears that our reign with Christ is conditional upon our faithfulness in the body, and that the reign involves judging.

**III. 6:12-18** – Stop being slaves to your body; flee immorality. *The lust of the eyes.*

Their attitude was, since “all things are lawful,” and we feed the stomach, we are free to feed all our appetites. But sexual union is on a different plane than food for the stomach; the stomach was made for food, and the body was made for the Lord.

#### What’s at stake at the Judgment Seat of Christ?

**6:9,10** Some interpret these verses to mean,

People who do those things are not going to Heaven, so if you’re guilty, and you think you’re saved, you’re really not. You had a head faith and not a heart faith.

Since believers are capable of sinning like this, this view seems far more consistent:

Saved people who continue in those things, without repentance, will lose their inheritance at the Judgment Seat of Christ, and they will miss the chance to rule and reign with Christ.

It seems unlikely that Paul is reminding them that unsaved people don’t inherit the Kingdom. Why would he say “**Do not be deceived?**”

**1 Corinthians 6:20** For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

God has entrusted rule, reign, and judgment to the Saints, in the Kingdom, alongside Jesus; however, if we live our lives in the body with a cavalier attitude toward purity and the flesh, then we risk losing out on this elevated destiny.