



TRANSFORMING TRUTH

Trends deceive. Traditions enslave. *God's Truth transforms.*

## "An Oft-Forgotten Encounter"

From the Series,  
"Encounters"

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Preached Sunday 9/21/14

Meadow Baptist Church

### 1. The Shared Christian Experience (1 Cor. 3:10-15)

- a. The same foundation for us all (10-11) - *"10 According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. 11 For no one can lay a foundation another than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."*
- b. The same opportunity for us all (12-13) - *"Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw -13 each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done."*
- c. The same promise to us all (14-15) - *"If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire."*

**God has set up the same criteria for all our lives. The difference will be seen in how we each chose to respond to what He has set up.**

### 2. The Individual Christian's Appointment (Romans 14:10-12)

- a. A common, regrettable mistake (10a) - *"Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother?"*
- b. A future, inevitable evaluation (10b-11) - *"For **we will all stand before the judgment seat of God**; for it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, **every** knee shall bow to Me, and **every** tongue shall confess to God.'*
- c. A narrow, specific accountability (12) - *"So then each of us will give an account of himself to God."*

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### 3. The Completed Christian's Reward (2 Cor. 5:10)

- a. The divulging of what was formerly unseen (10a) - *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ..."*
- b. The dispensing of eternal reward (10b) - *"...so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body..."*
- c. The diagnosis of our life's value (10c) - *"...whether good or evil."*

Evil does not translate *kakos* or *poneros*, the words for moral evil, but *phaulos*, which means "worthless," or "useless." Richard C. Trench writes that *phaulos* "contemplates evil under another aspect, not so much that either of active or passive malignity, but that rather of its good-for-nothingness, the impossibility of any true gain coming forth from it" (Synonyms of the New Testament [Reprint; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983], 317). *Phaulos* describes those mundane things that inherently are neither of eternal value nor sinful, such as taking a walk, going shopping, taking a drive in the country, pursuing an advanced degree, moving up the corporate ladder, painting pictures, or writing poetry. Those morally neutral things will be judged when believers stand before the judgment seat of Christ. If they were done with a motive to glorify God, they will be considered good. If they were pursued for selfish interests, they will be considered bad.