

6 – The Judgement Seat of Christ

Eternal Judgement: Punishing Evil, Rewarding Good, Suffering Loss

Matthew 6

- **Verses 1-4**
 - Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people ***in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.*** Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. ***Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.*** But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. ***And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.***
- **Verses 5-6**
 - And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. ***Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.*** But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. ***And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.***
- **Verses 16-21**
 - And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. ***Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.*** But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. ***And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.***
 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- **Verses 32-33**
 - Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

The Gospels and Acts

- **Matthew 10:40-42**
 - Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.
- **Matthew 12:36 (33-37)**
 - I tell you, on the day of judgement people will give account for every careless word they speak.
- **Matthew 16:24-27**
 - Then Jesus told His disciples, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with His angels in the glory of His Father, and then He will repay each person according to what he has done."
- **Mark 9:41**
 - For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.
- **Acts 10:42**
 - And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

- **Acts 17:31**
 - The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.

Pauline Literature

- **Romans 2:6 and 16**
 - He will render each one according to his works... on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.
- **Romans 14:10-13**
 - "Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God; for it is written, 'As I love, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.'" So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore let us not pass judgement on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother."
- **1 Corinthians 3:10-15**
 - Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— 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. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.
- **1 Corinthians 4:5**
 - Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.
- **2 Corinthians 5:9-12**
 - So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others.
 - But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart.
- **1 Timothy 4:8**
 - Train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value (valuable, profitable, beneficial) in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

Wisdom Literature

- **Job 34:10-12**
 - Therefore, hear me, you men of understanding: far be it from God that He should do wickedness, and from the Almighty that He should do wrong. For according to the work of a man He will repay him, and according to his ways He will make it befall him. Of a truth, God will not do wickedly, and the Almighty will not pervert justice.
- **Psalms 28:4**
 - Give to them according to their work and according to the evil of their deeds; give to them according to the work of their hands; render them their due reward.
- **Psalms 62:11-12**
 - Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God, and that you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love. For you will render to man according to his work.

- **Ecclesiastes 12:14**
 - For God will bring every deed into judgement, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

Prophetic Literature

- **Isaiah 40:10**
 - Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and His arm rules for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him.
- **Isaiah 61:8**
 - For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
- **Isaiah 62:11**
 - Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your salvation comes; behold His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him."
- **Jeremiah 9:23-24**
 - Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he *understands* and *knows* me, that I am the LORD who *practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.*"
- **Jeremiah 17:9-10**
 - The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately sick; who can understand it? I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.
- **Jeremiah 32:16-19**
 - I prayed to the Lord, saying: 'Ah, Lord GOD! It is You Who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for You. You show steadfast love to thousands, but you repay the guilt of fathers to their children after them, O great and mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts, great in counsel and mighty in deed, whose eyes are open to all the ways of the children of man, rewarding each one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his deeds.
- **Revelation 2:23, 25-26**
 - And all the churches will know that I am He who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works. Only hold fast what you have until I come. The one who conquers and who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations.
- **Revelation 22:12**
 - Behold, I am coming soon, bringing My recompense with Me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

Hebrews and Other Epistles

- **Hebrews 4:11-13**
 - Let us strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.
- **Hebrews 6:1-2**
 - Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgement.
- **Hebrews 10:34-36**

- For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.
- **Hebrews 11:6**
 - Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.
- **Hebrews 13:17**
 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.
- **2 Peter 1:1-15**
 - "...For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ..."

Narrative Scriptures

- **Ruth 2:12**
 - The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!
- **1 Samuel 26:23**
 - The LORD rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the LORD gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the LORD's anointed.