

— 2Cor 5.1-10; 1Cor 3.8-15 —

Romans Series 13

Final Judgment for Believers

2Cor 5.1 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. 4 For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 6 So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. 9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

1Cor 3.8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. 9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

* What are six basic truths the Bible teaches us about final judgment for believers?

(1) Believers in Christ go to ... when they die (2Cor 5.6, 8).

– For believers, to be absent from the body is to be ...

– Where did OT believers go when they died? What about unbelievers? (Luke 16.19-31)

– How are “hades” and “paradise” used?

– What does the Apostle’s Creed mean when it says Jesus “descended into hades”?

– What does Eph 4.8 mean when it says Jesus “ascended” and “led captivity captive”?

(2) Believers, when they die, still long for ... (2Cor 5.2-4;

1Cor 15.51-52).

(3) All believers will appear before ... (2Cor 5.10).

(4) The final destiny of every person is known immediately after ... and before ...

(5) The judgment seat of Christ for believers does not entail ..., but it does entail ... (1Cor 3.12-15).

– What is the only foundation for any believer (vs 11)?

– What is the difference between gold, silver, and precious stones, and wood, hay, and straw (vs 12, 14)?

– What is “burned” up (vs 15)?

(6) While believers are not ... as a result of final judgment, they do receive ... (vs 8, 14).

– What are two purposes for judging believers’ deeds?

– When we think of life in the age to come, we tend to think of it as being like ...

– What are some things we know about the nature of God?

– God will be busy doing new things that are fully consistent with ... And if we are his people, we will be ...

– Jesus suggests there is a connection between ... (Mat 20.21-23, 25-28).

– It is easy for us to think of this life as ..., but we should think of it as ...