

# PERFECT ENDING

## WHY YOUR ETERNAL FUTURE MATTERS TODAY

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REWARDS IN HEAVEN  
2 Corinthians 5:9-10

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**Introduction:** One of the most neglected or misunderstood subjects in the Bible is the reality of rewards in heaven. Today we are going to examine what Scripture says about the judgment that awaits every Christian after the Rapture.

### I. The Reality of the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:9-10; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15)

Acts 18:12 "But while Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat."

2 Corinthians 5:9-10 "Therefore also we have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him. <sup>10</sup>For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

1 Corinthians 3:13 "Each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work."

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Ephesians 2:8-10 "8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, that no one should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

### **II. The Basis for the Judgment Seat of Christ** (1 Corinthians 3:10-13; 1 Corinthians 4:5)

1 Corinthians 3:11-13 "11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man builds upon the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work."

#### **A. The Durability of Our Life** (1 Corinthians 3:10-13)

### B. The Motives of Our Life (1 Corinthians 4:5)

1 Corinthians 4:5 “Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men’s hearts; and then each man’s praise will come to him from God.”

Proverbs 16:2 “All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight, but the Lord weighs the motives.”

Hebrews 11:6 “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”

### III. The Results of the Judgment Seat of Christ (1 Corinthians 3:14-15)

1 Corinthians 3:14-15 “<sup>14</sup>If any man’s work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward. <sup>15</sup>If any man’s work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire.”

#### A. Rewards (1 Peter 5:4; 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:12)

##### 1. Privileges in Heaven (2 Peter 1:11; Revelation 2:7)

2. **Praise** from the Lord (Matthew 25:21)

3. **Positions** of authority (2 Timothy 2:12)

Matthew 25:21 “His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave; you were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things, enter into the joy of your master.’”

**B. Loss** (1 Corinthians 3:15)

1 Corinthians 3:15 “If any man’s work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire.”

Conclusion