

THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

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**“For we must all appear before the judgment
Seat of Christ; that every one may receive the
Things done in his body, according to that he
Hath done, whether it be good or bad.”
Ω 2 Corinthians 5:10**

This morning I felt impressed of the Lord to write about this subject although frankly I don't know too much about it except that it is part of Paul's theology and the *gospel* that he received by revelation from Jesus Christ.

As I've said and written many times, I've never ministered the same message twice in all my years of ministry for the Lord; however, very often He will give me a subject and then as I'm speaking I will receive revelation—as I begin speaking by faith—and that is what I expect to happen with this subject.

Like many *principles* of God that we must search the Scriptures for, this one is seldom preached on and, in fact, many Christians are erroneously taught that they will never face judgment once they've accepted Jesus' Blood Sacrifice for their sins but clearly that is not the case and this scripture proves it. Paul makes mention of this subject in other verses of scripture, e.g., Romans 14:10 and 1 Corinthians 3:8, *et al.*

This is the only place in the New Testament where this Greek word, *bema*, is used and the word symbolizes a raised platform that a person reaches by steps and in ancient Greece the word was used for a tribune in the court of law.

Now in this key text I want you to focus on two words—*we* and *all*. The fact that the Apostle Paul uses the word, *we*, implies that he is speaking about Christians and the fact that he uses the word *all* indicates that this is an experience that we will all, i.e., all Christians, go through.

As Eve and I have written and said many times how we've been privileged to be taken to Heaven dozens of times and what we've learned that is a *portion* of our Gospel is that every single person only gets to Heaven one way—by the Blood of Jesus—but *where* you live there is determined by how Jesus evaluates your life at His Judgment Seat that Paul is writing about in these scriptures.

Heaven is divided up into three levels or cities with the lowest level being Paradise and the highest level being the one with the most light where God the Father and Jesus have their thrones. Jesus is often seen in other parts of Heaven as well but I've never seen the Father except in the Throne room, which is a huge place and is very noisy. That is why—to me at least—Revelation 8:1 is so significant because after the Seventh Seal is opened there “is silence in Heaven for about one-half hour.”

You'll recall that Jesus told one of the thieves on the cross that he would be with Jesus that day “in Paradise.” Those who die without many good deeds such as “death bed” confessions like this thief or

else aborted babies go to the lowest level of Heaven, Paradise. It is very beautiful and full of parks, lakes and mountains.

When I graduated from the university with a degree in chemical engineering it was interesting to begin to see the things we studied about designing such as heat exchangers, reactors, fractionating columns, etc., out in the chemical plants and refineries. This is also true of Heaven. When you're taken there you see things that you remember reading about in the Bible and it's absolutely fascinating because when you notice something the verse of scripture will immediately come to your mind without your having to think about it! For example, a testimony I gave when we were interviewed on T.V. a few years ago, concerns a time when Eve and I were taken to a huge church in Heaven that is at the very top of a large mountain. We were both given new names. The name of the church was Mount Zion Church. As I shared in the interview there was a large bookstore in the Church and everything was free! I realized, however, that this church is spoken of in the Book of Hebrews (12:18-24, especially notice vv. 22-23).

Now I want to share with you exactly how you will be judged and it's so simple! You will be judged by the Word, the *logos*, and this is very interesting because Jesus is called the *logos* and so is the Bible—both will judge you.

Back in the 80s I was taken into the Throne room on behalf of a person I was interceding for in prayer. Most of the time when I'm taken to the Throne room it is because the Lord is using me to help others in attaining their ministry, anointing, etc. I saw Jesus hand a file folder to the Father sitting on the Throne and this file folder had the name of the person I was praying for.

My brothers and sisters, this is Bible—we all have a file folder in Heaven and it contains God's plan for our life from *before* we are created. David understood this. Notice the following scripture:

“For you have formed my inward parts; you have covered me in my Mother's womb. I will praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully

Made; marvelous are your works ... Your eyes saw my substance, Being yet unformed. And in your book they were written, the days Fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.”

Ω Psalm 139:13-16

I've shared in my writings a very important vision that I received back in 1997 when we were living in Helena, Montana, and in my book, *Revelations from God*, I titled it “The Vision of the Sporting Goods Store.” In this vision I was “made to know” because the Lord explained it that there are *four* possible outcomes for your life’s plan. First, there is the plan or will that *we* think our life should follow. IF we follow this plan we are following our own wills and this can be dangerous because even though you may be born again your mind and emotions are not “renewed” and Satan will continue to operate in these areas to destroy us.

Then there are three plans or wills of God as outlined in Romans 12:2—good, acceptable and perfect. About 17 years before I had this vision I had another one where I saw the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit in a workshop—they were *fashioning a human being!* I saw them placing gifts inside that person and I was made to know that God seals up His will, purposes, plans and gifts (Ro. 11:29) in a person when He makes them. But as I tell people all the time, unfortunately, He doesn’t give you an operations manual when you’re born that explains these gifts, callings, the perfect will of God, etc., for your life. It’s your responsibility to learn what these are and to develop them.

But then in 1997 after I received the *Vision of the Sporting Goods Store* the Lord showed me that, based on 4 possible wills or outcomes, a person only has a 25% chance of fulfilling God’s perfect will for their life. How do you improve those odds? He showed me that you do so by spending as much time as possible reading and *meditating* in His Word. And, guess what? That’s so simple isn’t it? He showed me that the Word of God was like a chemical catalyst that brings forth His perfect will. And when you think about it it’s very easy to see and understand because as we read and meditate the Word our minds are renewed to the Word—absolute truth—and we begin to align our lives

with the Word which is what? God's perfect will for your life! And didn't Jesus say that the Word would judge us. So I want to encourage you today to devote more time to reading and meditating in the Scriptures so that it will be a pleasant experience when you stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Get this very strong in your spirit today so you'll understand that it is only as you "abide in my word"—through reading and meditating the Word—that you will be Jesus' disciples and then "you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31-32)

Use the method I use and you will also get revelation each day as you devote yourself to the Word. Read a minimum of 10 chapters a day—2 Old Testament, 2 New Testament, 5 Psalms and 1 Proverb. This will take you through the New Testament 4 times a year, the Old Testament once a year and Psalms and Proverbs each month. If you want to read through the entire Bible each month as I do then you must read 8 chapters in the New Testament instead of 2 and 24 chapters in the Old Testament. Praise the Lord!