

“When We Stand Before God”

II Corinthians 5:10

With reference to fruitless Christians who find themselves at the Judgment Seat of Christ, Dr. Charles Stanley says, “Imagine standing before God and seeing all you have lived for reduced to ashes.” When we, as Christians, stand before God, what kind of place is this JUDGMENT SEAT? It is not a “mercy seat,” it is a “judgment seat.”

I. It is a place of REQUIREMENT (v.10a “We must all appear...”)

- A. This judgment is required OF ALL BELIEVERS (“We...”)
- B. This judgment is required WITHOUT ANY EXCEPTIONS (“We must all...”)

II. It is a place of REVELATION (v.10b “We must all appear...”)

- This is a personal appearance in bodily form (“we will all stand”)
- Jesus was judged for our sin...but we will be judged for our service.
 - A. The TOTALITY OF OUR SERVICE will be revealed (i.e. all our service) cf. Luke 12:2-3
 - B. The QUALITY OF OUR SERVICE will be revealed (i.e. kind of service)
cf. I Corinthians 3:13
 - C. The MOTIVE OF OUR SERVICE will be revealed (i.e. the why of service)
cf. I Corinthians 4:5

III. It is a place of RECOMPENSE (v.10c “...so that each one may be recompensed...”)

- “Recompense” - “to receive, to receive back, recover, metaphorically of required.”
- Has a POSITIVE (reward) dimension and a NEGATIVE (reproof) dimension.
 - A. We may receive REWARD for our GOOD DEEDS (v. 10d “...for deeds in the body, whether good...”) -cf. I Corinthians 3:14; 4:5
 - B. We may receive REPROOF for our BAD DEEDS (v.10e “...whether...bad.”)
-cf. I Corinthians 3:15; Colossians 3:25

We will all stand before God. We will be judged by God as to the QUALITY and MOTIVATION of our service. May we be able to say, at that crucial place, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;... there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award me on that day...” (II Timothy 4:7-8).