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THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

By Jimmy Pettigrew

"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, " 2 Cor. 5:10. The Bible assures us of judgment. This day is as sure as death (Heb. 9:27) Christ is the judge before whom all must stand (Acts 17:30-31). We must make preparation for the judgment. Therefore, we need to know about the "judgment seat of Christ."

- 1. "We must appear." Judgment is an appointment God has for us. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment," Heb. 9:27. The appointment to meet the Lord in judgment we shall keep. When Jesus comes, all nations shall appear before Him (Matt. 25:31-46).
- 2. It is an informed seat. We will "receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." All things are open to His eyes (Heb. 4:13). "The eyes of the Lord are in every place....," Prov. 15:3. "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil," Eccl 12:14.
- 3. It's an impartial seat. God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34-35). Judgment will be impartial (Rom. 2:4-11). Man shall be judged by the word of Christ in light of his obedience or disobedience (John 12:48).

Man must give an account of himself to God (Rom. 14:10-12). Christ will either say "Come and inherit the kingdom prepared for you" or "Depart I never knew you." Are you ready for the JUDGMENT DAY?

THE POWERFUL WORD OF GOD

Jimmy Pettigrew

Seldom ever in the age of man has the Word of God occupied its rightful and supreme position in the affairs of life. Man has failed to appreciate and respect the Bible as God's absolute and final will for man. No other book in the annals of history has had so many enemies as God's word, the Bible. But God's Word is enduring (1 Peter 1:25; Matthew 24:35), powerful, it's God's **DYNAMITE.** "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of the soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). "It is the power of God unto salvation" (Romans 1:16). The power of the Word of God is compared to the crushing impact of a hammer which breaks a rock into pieces (Jeremiah 23:29). It "cannot be broken" (John 10:35).

From these passages it is apparent that God's Word is active and working, powerful enough to do what it is designed to do (Isaiah 55:11). The very nature of God's Word is such that it will do its job in the one who hears it. It gives men the "power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12). It is powerful enough to lead the unbeliever to faith in Christ (Romans 10:17). We can see the active power of the Word in conversion (Psalm 19:7), in the new birth (John 3:5), in spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6:17), in direction (Jeremiah 10:23), in the prevention of sin (Psalm 119:11). It saves (James 1:21), sanctifies (John 17:17), cleanses (Ephesians 5:26), it gives light and understanding (Psalm 119:105,130), and it can expose and destroy false philosophies and imaginations (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

God's Word has the energy, the capability to accomplish all these things that He has designed it to do. God's Word has to do with things "that pertain to life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3). However, it cannot do its work if it is not allowed to!

The Word of God is living, active, sharp, pierces, divides and discerns. Friends, the Bible has endured time, persecution, and criticism because it is the eternal Word of our eternal God.

DO YOU SERVE THE LORD?

A Servant of the Lord is one who will put the Lord's business above any other business.

A Servant of the Lord is one who attends the services of the church on a regular basis.

A Servant of the Lord is one who is willing to be a good example for others to follow.

A Servant of the Lord is one who gives to the church according to what he makes rather than the amount he

has left over

A Servant of the Lord is one who attends services because he loves to, not merely because it is his duty'.

A Servant of the Lord is one who has a willing mind to do the Lord's work.

A Servant of the Lord is one who can see his own faults and not just the other fellows'.

A Servant of the Lord is one who Is more concerned with winning souls than with the honors men may give.

A Servant of the Lord is one who thinks more of attending Bible class than staying home to sleep.

-borrowed-

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear and Learn - Rom. 10:17; John 6:45; 17:3

Believe - Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24

Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30

Confess the Lord - Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10

Be Baptized - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:21

Continue in the Apostles' Teaching - Acts 2:42; 2 Tim. 3:14-17