

The Bema Seat Judgment for Believers. (2 Cor 5:7-11)

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC , Sunday, Aug. 29th

Christianity isn't a "Religion", but rather a Relationship with God made possible through Christ!

Jn 17:3,4; Jn. 10:9-14; 27,28 *"my sheep hear my voice...and they follow me."* Since Jesus isn't physically walking today, he's left us his word to "follow". (Ps. 73:24; Ps. 16:11) It isn't only our "map" in life, but will also be the standard by which We'll be judged! (Eccl. 12:13,14; Jn 12:47-48)

Heb. 9:27 *"It is appointed unto men once do die, but after this, the Judgment!"* (Krisis: Justice)

The Bible teaches that every human being will be evaluated before one of two very different and distinct "Judgment Seats."

- The "Great White Throne Judgment" of unbelievers. (Rev. 20:11-15)
 - The Bema Seat (*For born again Christians*) (1 Cor. 3:9-15; 2 Cor. 5:10-21)
- 2 Cor 5:9 *"Wherefor we labor, that...we may be accepted of him."* (Euarestos: fully pleasing)

1. This is not about condemnation, but Evaluation! (Ro. 8:1)

A. Not Krino (Rev. 20:13), or Krisis (Heb. 9:27), but Bema: Throne, raised platform.

Ro 14:10, 12 *"we shall all stand before the judgment seat (Bema) of Christ..."*

12 *...so then every one of us shall give account (logos: words, thoughts) of himself to God."*

B. *"that every one may receive ..."* 2 Cor 5:10

- 1) It's not about losing...but gaining! (Phil. 3:7-14)
- 2) It's not about regrets, but Rewards! 2 Tim 4:7-8

2. We'll be Evaluated based on our actions!

Vs 10 *"every one may receive the things done in (dia: through) his body..."*

A. It's not what we feel, believe, or intend; but what we actually do that matters!

- 1) James 2:14-17 *"Faith without works is Dead!"*
- 2) Mt 7:24 *"whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, (poie'ō: to make or do) I will liken him unto a wise man who built his house (life) on the rock..."*

B. It's not the exceptional act, (rare occasion) But the habitual ones!

2 Cor 5:10 *"according to that he hath done"* (Prassō: practiced, done repeatedly, habitually)

- 1) Lk 16:10-11 *"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?"*

3. Our actions will be judged (2 Cor 5:10) based on whether they were:

A. "good" (agathos: beneficial)

- 1) To whom? (Mt 25:40) *"the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."*
- 2) That's why Col 3:23-24 tells us: *"whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."*

B. "or bad." (kakos: worthless)

- 1) Not necessarily "evil" (poneros: depraved, hurtful) but rather not "helpful"

C. What/who determines if something "good or bad"?

- 1) Everything is made for some primary, specific purposes! (Car, boat. Tool, radio, etc)
 - a) If they fail to accomplish those purposes, (drive, float, work, play, process, etc) then they don't "work" as designed! Are they "Useful?"

Conclusion:

We're made(designed) on purpose and for specific purposes.

(Rev. 4:11; Ro. 8:28,29)

Eph 2:10 *"we are his workmanship (poiē'ma: masterpiece: from poie'ō: to make or do) created in Christ Jesus unto good works, (agathos ergon: beneficial actions) which God hath before ordained (proetomiaz'ō: prepared, planned in advance) that we should walk in them."* (peripateō: occupied with)



Rev 4:11 *"Thou art worthy, O Lord for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure (thelema: Purposes) they are created."*

At the Bema Seat, We'll be evaluated by how well we accomplished (prioritized) those purposes!

2 Cor 5:9-10 *"Wherefore we labor, that, we may be accepted of him. 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."*

Application: 2 Cor 5:11-20

"Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men;... 20 be reconciled to God!"

Heb 13:7 *"Remember (reflect on) them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow..."*

17 *"obey them which have the rule over you and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."*

**If I'm going to give an account for what I've taught you (from God's Word)
You'll give an account for what you do with it! (Mt. 22:29)**

1) Which Judgment will you be at?

White Throne of Rev. 20:11-15? or the Bema Seat of Christ (2Cor 5:10)?

2) Prepare Now for that inevitable day! Eph 5:15-18 *"See then that ye walk circumspectly not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil... be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is... Be filled (influenced) by the Spirit!"*

Amos 4:12 *"Prepare to meet thy God"*



7:7-8 *"the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand. I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people: I will not again pass by them any more:"*

Jn 12:48 *"He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."*