

Christ Will Reward Everyone According to Our Works  
(Matthew 16:27)

Introduction:

1. According to 2 Corinthians 5:10, everyone will "*appear before the judgment seat of Christ.*"
2. At the judgment Christ will judge each person on the basis of:
  - a. whether we know God and obey the Gospel (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)
  - b. how we receive the Lord's Word (John 12:48)
  - c. the words we speak (Matthew 12:36-37).
3. This lesson is based on the Lord's teaching in Matthew 16:27.
  - a. Jesus talked about the time when He will come in glory with His angels.
  - b. He will reward each person "*according to his works.*"
  - c. Theme: "Christ will reward everyone according to our works."

Discussion:

- I. THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE WE ARE INFORMED THAT WE WILL BE JUDGED BY OUR WORKS
  - A. This principle is revealed in:
    1. the Old Testament (Ecclesiastes 12:14)
    2. the New Testament (2 Corinthians 5:10).
  - B. Since we will be judged by our works, we must understand that . . .
- II. CERTAIN WORKS MUST BE AVOIDED
  - A. The unrighteous people listed in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 will not inherit the kingdom of God.
    1. They are unrighteous because they participate in unrighteous activities.
    2. Such activities must be avoided.
    3. Thankfully, forgiveness is available (vs.11).
  - B. The "*works of the flesh*" are listed in Galatians 5:19-21.
    1. This is not a complete list.
    2. Those who participate in these works will not inherit God's kingdom.
  - C. The works listed in Ephesians 4:25-31 are to be "*put off.*"
  - D. The works listed in Colossians 3:5-9 are to be "mortified."
  - E. Revelation 21:8 explains why evil works must be avoided.
- III. CERTAIN WORKS MUST BE DONE
  - A. We must use our talents in the Lord's service (Matthew 25:14-30).
  - B. We must take care of the Lord by helping the needy (Matthew 25:31-46).
  - C. We must develop "*the fruit of the Spirit*" (Galatians 5:22-23).
  - D. We must "*put on*" the characteristics listed in Colossians 3:12-14.
  - E. Pure religion includes the activities mentioned in James 1:27.
- IV. DOING GOOD WORKS HAS BENEFITS
  - A. Our lights shine when we do good works (Matthew 5:16).
    1. Others will observe our good works.
    2. They may be led to glorify God.
  - B. We learn from Titus 3 that:
    1. good works are "*profitable unto men*" (vs.8)
    2. maintaining good works will prevent us from becoming "*unfruitful*" (vs.14).
  - C. "*God is well pleased*" when His children do good works (Hebrews 13:16).

Conclusion:

1. (Matthew 16:27) When Jesus returns each person will be rewarded "*according to his works.*"
2. Since this is the case,:
  - a. let us avoid activities that the Lord condemns
  - b. let us do the things that please Him.