

We Will Be Judged By Our Works
(Matthew 16:27)

Introduction:

1. We have been studying some important events that involve Christ.
2. Several of these events have already occurred, including:
 - a. the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)
 - b. the Lord's ascension 40 days after His resurrection (Acts 1:3, 9).
3. Other events involving Christ will occur in the future, including:
 - a. His return [announced by angels when He ascended] (Acts 1:10-11)
 - b. the resurrection (John 5:28-29)
 - c. the judgment (Acts 17:31).
4. 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).
5. 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. "We will be judged by 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 be aware of . . .
- II. WORKS THAT 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. These activities must be avoided because those who participate in them 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. GOD'S PEOPLE ARE TO DO GOOD WORKS
 - A. See:
 1. Galatians 6:10
 2. Ephesians 2:10
 - B. Since God's people are to do good works, and we will be judged by our works, we must be aware of . . .
- IV. WORKS THAT 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.
- V. 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.