

Ephesians 5:21

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

Spirit-filled Christians rank themselves under one another.

Why should we be in fear of the One who gave His life for ours, especially if we are sealed for eternity?

“...[It] is not a fear that one feels for a tiger.... Rather, the fear is one filled with awe, in which you feel wonder and a certain shrinking, a sense of inadequacy. It is a fear that comes forth out of love for the Lord.” ~C.S. Lewis

Salvation is a gift, but there are rewards for faithfulness and loss of rewards for unfaithfulness.

The emphasis of the Bema is placed on the fact that each Christian must give an account of his/her life before the omniscient and holy Christ. All that was done through the energy of the flesh will be regarded as worthless, while all that was done in the power of the Holy Spirit will be graciously rewarded.

What is in accord w/God's Word?

We/Christians will stand glorified before Christ **w/out - Sin Nature**

W/out guilt because we have been **Declared righteous**

W/out punishment- Jesus took all of God's wrath toward our sins

The Nature of the Rewards:

- The Promise of Crowns—a symbol of victory, authority, and responsibility
- The Promise of Heavenly Treasure—stresses eternal value and security (Matthew 6:20; 1 Peter 1:4)
- The Promise of Accolades or Commendations—“well done, good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:21; Luke 19:17; 1 Corinthians 4:5b)
- The Promises to Overcomers—special blessing of rewards to those believers who overcome special trials and tests (Revelation 2:7; 2:11, 17, 26)

- The Promise of Special Responsibilities and Authority of the Lord's Possessions (Matthew 19:28; 24:45-47; 25:21, 23; Luke 19:17-19; 22:29-30; Revelation 2:26)

GREEK WORDS

Hupotassō – (hoop-ot-as'-so)—military term [to arrange] :- rank under, to subordinate :- be under obedience; submit self unto

Phobos (fob'-os)—to be put in fear; alarm or fright :- be afraid, + exceedingly, fear, terror

Bema – a judgment seat, raised platform :- place of decision

TODAY'S SONGS

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” words and music by Joachim Neander, Paul Mills, and Travis Cottrell

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“Take Heart” words and music by Joel Houston, from the album Aftermath

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