

## CHAPTER 23

### THE JUDGMENT (BEMA) SEAT OF CHRIST FOR REWARDS FOR SAVED

The Judgment Seat of Christ is an expression that appears only in Romans through Philemon and it is where believers are rewarded. The words "Judgment Seat" are translated from the Greek word "Bema" meaning an official judge's seat. It is not the usual word "krisis" which means punishment.

How good it is to know that believers never receive God's punishment (krisis) for sin, because it has already fallen on the believer's substitute, the Lord Jesus Christ, on the Cross. 2 Corinthians 5:21

What does Jesus say in John 3:18?

The word "judged" is translated from the Greek word "krisis."

Is a believer ever judged (condemned)? Romans 8:1

NOTE:

The White Throne Judgment is for the penalty of sin which is meted out on unbelievers. See: White Throne Judgment, page 94.

To whom is 2 Corinthians addressed? 2 Corinthians 1:1

Who appears before the Bema Seat? 2 Corinthians 5:10

What is the purpose of the Judgment Seat of Christ? 1 Corinthians 3:12-14

Why is the Judgment Seat of Christ necessary? 1 Corinthians 4:4-5

The Greek word for crown is "Diadem" and could be translated "gold crown." The other word for "crown" is "stephanos." A stephanos crown was a garland or wreath placed on the head of a winning athlete. Believers will be given the stephanos crowns of glory.

Name the crowns of glory and why these crowns are given?

2 Timothy 4:8

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

James 1:12

Revelation 2:10

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

## LIFE APPLICATION

As team members of the Church, we will all be rewarded at the Bema Seat for our own performance, our special work in the Church. Praise from people on earth is shallow in comparison to the approval God will give believers.

Read: Colossians 3:23-24. What work will be rewarded? We are rewarded for the small as well as large things we do for the Lord.

Who is at work in believers? Philippians 2:13

Who will ultimately get the glory for the good done in our lives? Ephesians 1:6,12,14

## MYSTERIES (SECRETS) OF THE BIBLE

Have you ever had something good happen to you but you decided to keep it a secret until the appropriate time and then reveal it? Well, God also has had secrets which He has kept in His heart until the proper time. The Bible calls these secrets "Mysteries." Read: Ephesians 3:3-6.

What are some of these mysteries?

Romans 11:25 \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 3:3-7 \_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 1:27 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Thessalonians 2:7 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Timothy 3:9 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 13:10-11 \_\_\_\_\_

In the context of rewards, what are believers to do? 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

### NOTE:

Consistent and diligent Bible study is vital to receive this reward. It requires a careful study of the Bible observing the distinctions between Israel and the Church. 2 Timothy 2:15

The knowledge of God's Word, the Bible, is not only for a select few but it is meant for everyone. What does God want us to do? Colossians 1:10

a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_ c. \_\_\_\_\_

## LIFE APPLICATION

Yes, God has a purpose for our lives and we will be rewarded. Have you ever considered that your rewards and glory in heaven depend on how you have served Him here on earth? How has the study of rewards impacted your life?