

JUDGEMENT: THEN, NOW AND SOMEDAY

Miscellaneous Scripture

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BIBLICAL JUDGMENTS:

Past Judgments:

1. The Garden of Eden Judgment (**Gen. 3**).
2. The Flood Judgment (**Gen. 6-9**).
3. The Calvary Judgment (**The Gospels**).
4. The Israelite Judgments (**Old Testament**).

Present-day Judgments:

1. Upon Local Churches (**Rev. 2-3**).
2. Upon Believers (**1 Cor. 11:30; Heb. 12:3-13; 1 Peter 4:17; 1 John 5:16**).

Future Judgments:

1. The Judgment Seat of Christ (**Rom. 14:10; 1 Cor. 3:9-15; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 22:12**).
2. The Tribulation Judgment (**Rev. 6-19**).
 - Upon man's religious systems (**Rev. 17**).
 - Upon man's economic system (**Rev. 18**).
 - Upon man's political system (**Rev. 18**).
 - Upon man's military system (**Rev. 19**).
 - Upon man himself (**Rev. 6, 8, 9, 16**).
3. Lamp & Talent Judgment [Israel] (**Ezek. 20:33-38; Matt. 24:45-51; 25:1-30**).
4. The Sheep & Goat Judgment [Gentile] (**Matt. 25:31-46**).
5. The Judgment of the Antichrist & the False prophet (**Rev. 19:20**).
6. The Judgment of Satan.
 - In the pit for 1000 years (**Rev. 20:1-3**).
 - In the lake of fire forever (**Rev. 20:10**).
7. The Judgment of Fallen Angels (**1 Peter 2:4; Jude 6**).
8. The Great White Throne Judgment (**Rev. 20:11-15**).

THE BEMA JUDGMENT SEAT

The Meaning of the Bema Judgment. The Greek term bema, translated judgment seat in the KJV, was a familiar term to the people of Paul's day. Reference: **Hebrews 12:1**

Paul used sports on a number of occasions to challenge us for the cause of Christ:

1. Wrestling: **Ephesians 6:12**
2. Boxing: **2 Timothy 4:7; 1 Corinthians 9:26**
3. Racing: **1 Corinthians 9:24**

The Fact of the Bema Judgment. There are many New Testament verses that speak of this judgment.

References: **Romans 14:10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Corinthians 3:8-15; Galatians 6:7; Colossians 3:24-25; Hebrews 10:30**

The Purpose of the Bema Judgment.

Negative considerations:

- The purpose of the Bema judgment is **not** to determine whether a particular individual enters heaven or not.
Reference: **1 Corinthians 3:15**
- The purpose of the Bema judgment is **not** to punish believers for sins committed either before or after their salvation.
References: **Psalms 103:10-12; Isaiah 38:17; 44:22; Micah 7:19; Hebrews 8:12; 1 John 1:7**

Positive considerations:

- Paul says that all Christians should conduct themselves as faithful stewards of God. References: **1 Cor. 4:2; 1 Peter 4:10**
- At the Bema judgment all stewards will stand before their Lord and Master and be required to give an account of the way they have used their privileges and responsibilities from the moment of the conversion.
- In the past, God dealt with us as sinners.
References: **Romans 5:6-8; Ephesians 2:1-3**
- In the present, God deals with us as children.
References: **Romans 8:14; 1 John 3:1-2**
- In the future, God deals with us as stewards.

The Time of the Bema Judgment.

1. Reward is associated with the resurrection. References: **Luke 14:14; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17**
2. When the Lord returns to the earth with His bride to reign, the bride is seen to be already rewarded. Reference: **Revelation 19:8**
3. In **1 Corinthians 4:5; 2 Timothy 4:8; and Revelation 22:12** the reward is associated with “*that day*”, that is, the day in which He comes for His own. Thus, it is believed that the rewarding of the church must take place between the rapture and the return of Christ to the earth.

What Will Occur at The Bema Seat? Reference: 1 Corinthians 3:8-16

1. Our foundation for life is Christ (**v 11**).
2. We are to build on this foundation (**v 10**).
3. What we build with are good works (**v 14**).
4. It is our works that God will examine (**v 13**).
5. Our works will be categorized:
Acceptable – Gold, Silver & Precious Stone (**v 12**).
Unacceptable – Wood, Hay & Stubble (**v 12**).

We Will Be Judged According to God’s Standards and Values.

God is interested in....

1. How we treat other believers (**Heb. 6:10; Matt. 10:41,42**).
2. How we exercise authority over others (**Heb. 13:17; Jam. 3:1**).
3. How we use our talents (**1 Cor. 12:4,11; 2 Tim. 1:6; 1 Peter 4:10; Lk. 19:11-26; Matt. 25:14-29**)
4. How we use our treasure (**1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7; 1 Tim. 6:17-19**).
5. How we spend our time (**Ps. 90:12; Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5; 1 Peter 1:17**).
6. How much we are willing to suffer for Jesus (**Matt. 5:11-12; Mk. 10:29-30; Rom. 8:18; 2 Cor. 4:17**).
7. How we run the race that God has chosen for your individual life (**Heb. 12:1-2**).
8. How many we witness to & win to Christ (**Prov. 11:30; Dan. 12:3; 1 Thess. 2:19-20**).
9. How we respond to temptation (**Jam. 1:2-3; Rev. 2:10**).
10. How we regard Christ’s coming in the Rapture (**2 Tim. 4:8**).
11. How faithful the pastor is (**Acts 20:26-28; 2 Tim. 4:1-2; 1 Peter 5:2-4**).

The Result of the Bema Seat of Christ:

Some will receive rewards (**1 Cor. 3:14**).

There are five specific rewards mentioned.

1. The Incorruptible Crown for those who overcome (**1 Cor. 9:25-27**).
2. The Crown of Rejoicing for the soul-winner (**Dan. 12:3; 1 Thess. 2:19-20**).
3. The Crown of Life for enduring temptation (**Jam. 1:2-3; Rev. 2:10**).
4. The Crown of Righteousness for looking for Christ return (**2 Tim. 4:8**).
5. The Crown of Glory for faithful being faithful (**Acts 20:26-28; 2 Tim. 4:1-2; 1 Peter 5:2-4**)

Some will suffer loss (**1 Cor. 3:15; 2 Tim. 4:14**)

References: **Colossians 2:18; 2 John 1:8; Revelation 3:11**

*He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
Revelation 22:20*