

5/31/20

Recap of 5/24/20 (1 Thessalonians 2:17-18):

1. In 1 Thessalonians 2:19,20, Paul reminds the Thessalonians that there is incentive to be faithful in their Christian walk and ministry. What could caused Paul to endure persecution and the opposition of Satan? What was his motivation? There are rewards for faithfulness, called crowns in the New Testament, which will be given at the Judgment Seat of Christ following the rapture at the Second Coming of Jesus.

-“The term judgment seat (Gk. **bema**) is taken from the Grecian games where successful athletes were rewarded for victory I athletic contests. Paul used that figure to denote the giving of rewards to church age believers. The purpose of the judgment seat will be recompense for deeds done in the body, whether good or worthless (2 Cor. 5:10). The believer’s works will be examined (1 Cor. 3:13) whether done by self-effort or whether done by God through the individual” (Moody Handbook of Theology).

2. Paul’s reward is the presence of those he had influenced for Christ

- “The only prize in life that he [Paul] really valued was to see his converts living well....A man’s greatest glory lies in those whom he has set or helped on the path to Christ.” (Barclay)

3. The central passages in the New Testament concerning various aspects of the Judgment Seat of Christ are: 2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:10-12; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; 9:24-26; and 4:1-5.

4. The basis of the rewards is faithfulness (1 Corinthians 4:2-5).

-Faithfulness in the use of the opportunities and talents God has given us.

-Faithfull in the use of material possessions (Galatians 6:7; 2 Corinthians 9:6)

-Faithfulness in sharing our faith (1 Corinthians 3:5-9)

-Doing good to all. (Galatians 6:10)

-Reward for enduring suffering.

-Reward for keeping our body under control, self-control. (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

-Reward for faithful Elders (leadership). (1 Peter 5:4)