

6/7/20

Recap of 5/31/20 (1 Thessalonians 2:19-20):

1. Paul's instructions to the Thessalonians can be summarized this way:
 - Be encouraged (keep sharing the Gospel in spite of suffering) vv. 14-16
 - Be strong – (Satan may throw up roadblocks to ministry, but he is a defeated enemy) vv. 17-18
 - Be faithful (we will be rewarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ) vv. 19-20
2. "But we are not owners of anything, we are stewards of everything we are and have. And it is required of stewards that they be faithful. It is required of servants that they serve. It is required of soldiers that they obey. And every Christian is a steward, a servant, and a soldier." (Vance Havner)
3. About the rewards to be given to believers at the Judgment Seat of Christ, Charles Ryrie writes this: "If heaven is heaven, what difference will rewards make? The answer to that is not given in the Bible; nevertheless, rewards are mentioned as a proper motivation for Christian service. We are told for what things rewards will be given. A crown of rejoicing will be given for bringing people to Christ (1 Th 2:19); a crown of righteousness, for loving His appearing (2 Ti 4:8); a crown of life, for enduring testing with love for the Lord (Ja 1:12), and a crown of glory to elders who are faithful to their responsibilities in the church (1 Pe 5:4)."
4. Along with the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Bible speaks of six other judgments of the future (seven altogether).
 - Of living gentiles, at the end of the Tribulation (Matthew 25:31-46; Joel 3:2).
 - Of living Jews at the end of the Tribulation (Ezekiel 20:37-38).
 - Of Satan and the fallen angels, after the Millennium (Jude 6; 1 Corinthians 6:3; 2 Peter 2:4; Revelation 20:10).
 - Of the unsaved, after the Millennium (Revelation 20:11-15).
 - Of Old Testament saints, at the end of the Tribulation (Daniel 12:1-3)
 - Of Tribulation saints, at the end of the Tribulation (Revelation 20:4-6)