

[The Book of 2 Timothy](#)
Chapter 4
“The Judgment of the Believer”

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The final judgment for the person that has accepted Jesus sacrifice, is not a Judgment for their sins, for they have already been judged on the Cross.

The final judgment for the believer, is a judgment of all those things that they did AFTER they gave their life to Jesus.

Think of the final judgment as being like those moments when you figure out your taxes at the end of the year.

During the year you rejoice when the paychecks come in or that raise or bonus that you received is on your paycheck..

Yet when we write out our tithe and offering check sometimes we flinch just a little as we think about the things that we think we still want or need.

Then when the end of the year comes everything is turned upside down...It is time to figure out how much additional tax you might have to pay or if you will receive a refund.

Every time you see that extra income or bonus, it make you flinch just a little at the thought of **“More income means more taxes”**.

Now, Every tithe check you add up brings you joy because that means **“Less tax to pay.”**

The final judgment is a lot like this for us as believers: Right now it is a little hard to make that sacrifice to give ourselves completely to Jesus to do with as He wills.

But on that day that Jesus calls us by name and we rise to meet Him in the clouds, the thought of all those things that we did for Jesus while we were here on this earth will bring us joy because of the great reward we will have.

The last chapter of the Book of 2 Timothy is about this very subject this morning, “The Judgment of the Believer”.

[2 Timothy 4](#)

1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, **who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing** and His kingdom:

For the Believer, when Jesus descends out of heaven with a shout and returns to the upper atmosphere of the earth to remove all those who have given their life to Jesus, as 2 Timothy 4

verse 1 says: He is going to judge those things that we did for Him while we lived in this body here on the earth.

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad

What is this “Judgment Seat of Christ”, and what will be Jesus Judging?

I think all of us forget that there is a final judgment that is awaiting every person that has ever lived on this earth, from Adam, through the last surviving human being at the end of the age.

- **I think that the majority of people** on the earth today either don't believe that this is true or don't really care.

The real question that will be asked at the moment that Jesus does come will be “How much have you given”, not how much have you gotten?”

- **Do you remember that old bumper sticker** that I used to see so much of years ago: “*Whoever dies with the most toys wins!*” **That is a lie.**

Another bumper sticker that I saw really tells it like it is, it said: “*He who dies with the most toys, still dies!*”

The Bible says to die without Jesus means that everything in this earthly life was for nothing, a total a catastrophic mistake.

Matthew 16:26 Jesus Said:

For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

For the Christian, The Lord is not going to look you over for how many medals or degrees or diplomas you have, but how many scars you have. (Julia Ward Howe 1810-1910.)

And yet I fear that in the church today, if the Lord judged us as he did Ananias and Sapphira in the book of Acts, Every church would need a graveyard instead of a fellowship hall.

Ananias and Sapphira you remember, represented that they had given all of the proceeds of the sale of their property to the Lord when in fact they had not, they had held back some for themselves.

Their sin was to misrepresent to others that they had done something for the Lord that in fact was really done for themselves...

Acts 5:1-6

1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession.

2 And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet.

3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?"

4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

5 Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things.

6 And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him.

Sometimes Today believers represent that they are also giving much more to the lord of their time, their attention, their finances and their very self than they really are.

- When in fact we are all much more selfish at times than we ever want anyone to know...

In that day that we all stand before the Lord, the most important question will no longer be what we think of Jesus, but instead, what does Jesus think of us.

- This is what Paul is going to teach us this morning as believers, the importance of making every second of what is left of this life really count for Jesus.

Charles Spurgeon used to tell a story that really illustrates the reality of what is ahead for the person that has rejected Jesus in their life.

When the famous statesman of France, "Mirabeau" died,. For a time all of France grieved his loss. For many hours all the people could think of or speak of was "Mirabeau was gone."

As a customer entered a restaurant in France and sat down, the waiter greeted him with his usual reply: "Fine weather we are having today isn't it sir?"

- The customer replied: "Yes my friend it is very fine, but Mirabeau is dead"

For the person that has given no thoughts of Jesus claim on their life, the thoughts of this life right now, can take priority over everything else.

For the person that has rejected Jesus as Savior of their life, the grief and horror and discovery that because they have failed accept Jesus sacrifice for their sins they have in reality rejected the only way that God planned for us to make it to heaven, they will realize they are Condemned forever.

- **Suddenly all of the former security** that was once enjoyed, the Joy once had, the possessions and pleasure of a lifetime, are swallowed up over the fear of the judgment that has come.

Then those thoughts of judgment shall push out every other thought of our life. The bitterness of their Spiritual grief will destroy everything else that this earthly and bodily pain ever caused us.

And it will be too late to do anything about it in the blackness of darkness, forever...

Peter said regarding those that have rejected Jesus:

2 Peter 2:9-17

9 then the Lord knows how to ... **reserve the unjust under punishment** for the day of judgment,
10 ...and especially those who walk according to the flesh ...,
14 having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin,
15 They have forsaken the right way and gone astray,
17 These ... **for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.**

Peter knew what it was to reject Jesus, for when they arrested Jesus, Peter ran away like a coward and hid. When they asked Peter on three separate occasions if he knew Jesus he adamantly denied He even knew who Jesus was.

Luke 22:54-57

54 Having arrested Jesus, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance.
55 Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.
56 And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him."
57 But Peter denied Him, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him."
58 And after a little while another saw him and said, "You also are of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!"
59 Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean."
60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed

And Yet after Jesus was Crucified and risen from the dead, Peter recovered, came back and followed Jesus for the rest of his life

It is an almost unimaginable horror to think of what Peter said awaits those who have Trampled underfoot Jesus and counted the sacrifice He made as nothing

2 Peter 2:17

17 These ... **for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.**

John said that the reason that people will not give their life to Jesus, is that people love the darkness, they love their sin and they will not give it up to come into the Light of Jesus love for them.

John 3:19

And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

- **So, Those who love the darkness**, those who want to continue in their sins and not turn from them to the Light of Jesus, Peter says: **“Hey you love darkness, you shall be assigned to Darkness forever.”**

There is a darkness that is so thick that you can feel it, where the total absence of light is found, where billions of people who have chosen darkness in this life and rejected the light of God's love, will by their own choice live in this thick darkness forever.

(TURN OFF ALL LIGHTS FOR 30 SECONDS)

- **At the end of the Book of Revelation**, chapter 20, there is a scene of the **“Great White Throne Judgment”**.

It is the final judgment of every person that has lived upon the earth, that has rejected Jesus Sacrifice and instead requested that they be judged by God based upon how good they were.

Revelation 20:11

Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.

There was “No place else found for them”, because they wanted to be judged based upon their own works.

Isaiah 64:6

But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

Literally in the Hebrew language All our righteousness is like “Menstrual cloths”, and Isaiah says that all our own personal works have taken us away.

Revelation 20:12

And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to **their works**, by the things which were written in the books.... And they were judged, each one according to his works...and were cast into the lake of fire.

If you are here this morning and you have not yet known that you need to give your life to Jesus and accept His sacrifice for your sins, it is not too late for you.

- **Right now**, there where you sit, all you have to do is be sorry for your sins and ask Jesus to forgive them, and you will never have to be concerned again about the fate of the Blackness of Darkness Forever.
- **Want to settle this issue** of whether your sins are forgiven and you will not ever see this darkness forever, **PRAY WITH ME RIGHT NOW TO INVITE JESUS INTO YOUR LIFE...**

As we finish the last chapter of 2 Timothy, Paul knows that he is about to finish his own race of life.

- **Paul is reminded himself** of this impending judgment, but not for sin, a Judgment for What he did while in his body for Jesus.
- **This is what** we are going to spend the balance of our time together in the Scriptures talking about: **“The Judgment of the Believer”**

How fitting it is for us this morning that if we are the final generation just before Jesus returns to the earth, that we also pause and reflect on the fact that most of the world has rejected Jesus and will endure a hopeless and final judgment.

And for the One who had accepted Jesus sacrifice upon the Cross for their own sin, there is also a judgment.

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

There is a judgment for every person that has professed that they believe Jesus is Lord and Savior of their life.

- **But it is not the kind of judgment** that most people think of when they consider the final judgment.
- **This judgment is** only for the persons that have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior while they lived in these bodies on this earth.

In 1 Corinthians chapter 3, Paul gives us the format, the rules if your will, of what we must do if we want to have reward from Jesus when we are finally with Him in Heaven.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, **as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.**

11 **For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**

12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,
13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.
14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.
15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

This is one of the most awesome doctrines in the Bible for the person who has asked Jesus to come into their life.

Paul says:

1. As a wise master builder, Paul has laid a foundation, other can build on.
2. The only foundation that anyone can build on in Jesus sacrifice.
3. You must be "Born Again" first to even qualify to build reward.
4. This is because you are not saved and go to heaven because of something that you did.
5. You are first saved by Jesus, then this being the foundation, you can now build rewards upon.
6. There are 2 kinds of building materials:
 - A. **Gold, Silver, Precious Stones.**
 - B. **Wood, Hay, Straw.**
7. What kind of building materials you choose, will determine whether or not you receive a reward.
8. The kind of materials you choose to build with is VERY IMPORTANT because those materials will be tested by fire.
9. Whatever is left over after it is tested by fire, will receive a reward.

What happens to Wood, Hay, or Straw when it is put into fire? Consumed, nothing left.

What happens to Gold, silver, Precious Stones when they are put into the fire? Only the impurities are consumed, the materials themselves will survive the fire.

The next question is: What kind of building materials are the Gold, silver and Precious Stones?

1 Corinthians 3

12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,
13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it

Verse 12 lists the materials, then in verse 13 it is called “Each One’s WORK”

- **The Gold, Silver, and Precious Stones** are a Work that you can do that will not be consumed when tried by the fire and will produce a reward for you.
- **The Wood, Hay and Straw** are also a work that you can do, but when they are put into the fire, they will be consumed, with no reward.

So, the idea of all of this is:

1. **After you are saved** by believing in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you have the opportunity to do good works for Jesus that can produce a reward for you.
2. **If whatever you do for the Lord** has the right MOTIVATION, the right REASON behind it; If you do it to bring Glory to Jesus because only He deserves any Praise, then these kinds of WORKS are considered Gold, silver, precious Stones.
3. **If the work that you did was just so that people would notice that you did it and acknowledge you** or give you praise for it, then that kind of motivation is WOOD, HAY AND STRAW. When these kinds of works that you did are tested, they will be consumed because they were not for Jesus, but for You.

Matthew 6:1-4

1 “Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. **Otherwise you have no reward** from your Father in heaven.

2 Therefore, **when you do a charitable deed**, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

3 But **when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing**,

4 that **your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly**

- **So, if the reason that you do anything, is just because you Love Jesus** and you want Him to be lifted up and glorified, you will receive a reward.
- **If the reason that you do anything, seems on the outside, by appearance** that you did it because you love the Lord, but the Lord can see into your heart that you were really doing it for yourself, to get acknowledge, then you will see your reward burned up.

So at the beginning of our study this morning in 2 Timothy chapter 4:

2 Timothy 4

1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, **who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing** and His kingdom:

2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

1. **“Teach the word Timothy”**, Paul says, use the Word of God to CONVINCE, REBUKE, EXHORT people with longsuffering or Patience and teaching.
2. **This is the reason** that we place such a great emphasis on teaching the entire Word of God from **Genesis to Revelation** to you.
3. **Because it has everything** that every person needs to have a blessed and productive life.

In the Book of Acts, chapter 20, Paul told the Elders there at the church at Ephesus:

Acts 20:27-28

27 For I have not shunned to declare to you **the whole counsel of God.**

28 Therefore take heed to yourselves

Learning the whole counsel of God’s Word has never been more important than it is today in these last days just before Jesus returns.

Because of verse 3: “3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables

- **This is what** us meant by the term: **“Itching ears”**
- **Paul says** that there will come a time in the last days of the present earth, when people will no longer trust just in the Word of God, but will seek to sit under the teaching of people who will **“TELL THEM WHAT THEY WANT TO HEAR”**

TRUE OR FALSE:

1. The term Jesus was **“Begotten of the Father”** means that Jesus is a Created being.
2. People that do more good than bad in their life are assured a place in heaven.
3. A wife is to submit to her husbands authority?
4. Money is the Root of all evil.

Question: Today, All 4 of these doctrines and hundreds just like them, are being taught in churches all over the world today. How could you know whether these were true or not?

Answer: You could not know unless you had studied the full counsel of all of God’s Word. In most churches in the world today, the people are not being taught the Word of God.

- **This is something** that has only happened in the last 100 years, before this present time, everyone was obligated to know what the Word of God said.
- **Today**, people do not know what the bible says, so they come up with answers based upon what they think is right.

2 Timothy 4

5 But you be watchful in all things...

For us here this morning that have given our lives to Jesus and now wait for Him to return for us from heaven...We are to study and know what the Word of God says and how to apply it to our life...

2 Timothy 4 Paul knows that he is about to be put to death...

6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

What Paul means by Being Poured out as a “Drink Offering” was that he wanted his entire life to just be “Poured Out” in his service to the Lord.

Mark 8:35 Jesus Said

For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but **whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.**

What did Jesus mean by losing your life for His sake? Well, the same thing that Paul meant, He wants his life just poured out for Jesus sake.

Did you ever notice that a candle lights up the life of every one that it is near, but in the process, it consumes itself.

There is something that happens to you when you can begin to see with your own eyes what Jesus went through to forgive your sins.

1. **When you see Jesus** hanging there upon the Cross, barely able to breath because His lungs are being crushed by the pressure of hanging by His arms.
2. **You can see the incredible pain on His face** of the multiple times they beat Him in His face, to the point of where Isaiah says:

Isaiah 52:14

Many were amazed when they saw him—beaten and bloodied, so disfigured one would scarcely know he was a person

3. **When you truly understand that everything they did to Jesus was really what I deserved, I was the guilty one**, and yet Jesus who we know now, is the Creator of the universe. Jesus was not willing that you should have to endure the kind of pain and suffering that he went through on that Cross, SO JESUS HUNG THERE AND TOOK IT ALL FOR YOU.

When you truly begin to understand what Jesus has done for you, how fully he has loved you even before the world was created...IT DOES SOMETHING TO YOUR HEART...IT BREAKS!

- **From that moment on**, all you want to do with the rest of your life is to try and reach someone with this incredible news that JESUS DIED TO FORGIVE THEM TOO.
- **You want every second of your life** to count for Jesus, to try and give back to Him some small degree of a THANKFULNESS by living for him for the rest of your life.

This is what Paul was talking about...

2 Timothy 4 Paul knows that he is about to be put to death...

6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.
7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Paul wanted to finish the race of his life trying to reach people with the fact that They can have all of their sins forgiven and be assured that they have eternal life...NO MATTER WHO THEY ARE OR WHAT THEY HAVE DONE IN THEIR LIFE...

Just by asking Jesus to come and live in their heart...

2 Timothy 4

8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing

We began this study this morning by talking about rewards for service to Jesus after He saved us.

In case you were wondering what Rewards we were talking about, here Paul says that He will receive "The Crown of Righteousness", and also everyone else also who is waiting and watching for the return of Jesus to the earth at the Rapture.

There are 5 Crowns or Rewards that are listed in the Bible, that are available to the person who Serves Jesus with the rest of their life:

1. **Crown of righteousness**, Those living in expectation of the Rapture

2 Timothy 4:8

8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

2. **Crown of glory**, To the faithful Shepherd, or teacher

1 Peter 5:2-4

2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;

3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

3. Crown of life, Those who endure trials

Revelation 2:10

10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

4. The incorruptible crown, Those who finish with Jesus

1 Corinthians 9:25-27

25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

26 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air.

27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

5. Crown of rejoicing, Soul winners Crown

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

20 For you are our glory and joy.

Do you know what you are going to do with these Crowns?

Revelation 4:10-11

10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

Immediately after jess removes us from the earth at the rapture, it appears that the very next thing that will happen is that each one of us will appear before the BEMA seat of Jesus to have our works judged

2 Corinthians 5:10

10 For we must all appear before the judgment(BEMA) seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Then Paul closes the letter to Timothy with a few details that have happened to him since they arrested him for teaching about Jesus and he awaited his trial and eventual beheading...

Timothy

9 Be diligent to come to me quickly;

10 for **Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world**, and has departed for Thessalonica—Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia.

11 **Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.**

12 And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.

13 **Bring the cloak that I left** with Carpus at Troas when you come—and the books, especially the parchments.

14 **Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm.** May the Lord repay him according to his works.

15 You also must beware of him, for he has greatly resisted our words.

16 **At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them.**

17 **But the Lord stood with me and strengthened** me, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and that all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

18 **And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom.** To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!

19 Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

20 Erastus stayed in Corinth, but Trophimus I have left in Miletus sick.

21 ¶Do your utmost to come before winter. ¶ Eubulus greets you, as well as Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brethren.

22 The Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Grace be with you. Amen.

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