

THE FUTURE

AS GOD REVEALS IT

Wednesday, April 16th, 2008
Pastor Jordan Brawner

Part 3: “What Comes After the Rapture?”

[1] THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

[A] The Judgment Seat of Christ is NOT... A time of _____ for our _____!

Isaiah 43:25 (NIV)

“I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.”

Psalms 103:12 (NLT)

“He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west.”

[B] The Judgment Seat of Christ is NOT... A time of _____ as to whether we stay in Heaven!

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

“For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. [18] Therefore encourage each other with these words.”

[C] The Judgment Seat of Christ is... A Time of _____ our _____!

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (NIV)

“By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. [11] For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. [12] If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, [13] his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. [14] If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. [15] If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.”

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NIV)

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”

- This word “BAD” is better understood in the Greek as “WORTHLESS” or “USELESS”

[D] The Judgment Seat of Christ is... A time of _____ for our _____!

Scripture give us at least 5 crowns for believers who overcome!

- (1) The Imperishable Crown!
- (2) The Crown of Rejoicing!
- (3) The Crown of Life!
- (4) The Crown of Righteousness!
- (5) The Crown of Glory!

[2] THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB

- There is strong wedding imagery throughout scripture illustrating God’s love and plans for his people...

Isaiah 62:5 (NIV)

“As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so your God will rejoice over you.”

Matthew 9:15 (NIV)

“Jesus answered, ‘How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast.’”

Revelation 19:7-9 (NIV)

“Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. [8] Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear. (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) [9] Then the angel said to me, ‘Write: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’ And he added, ‘These are the true words of God.’”

- The wedding symbolism follows the pattern that was popular in that place and time...

There are 3 Major Elements:

[A] The Bridal Price:

- A down payment was made to the bride’s father to secure the bride financially in case for any reason she might lose her husband.
- Jesus purchased our freedom on the cross.

Acts 20:28 (NIV)

“Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which He bought with His own blood.”

Revelation 5:9-10 (NIV)

“And they sang a new song: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. [10] You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.’”

[B] The Betrothal:

- A ceremony took place where gifts were exchanged. Then the bridegroom left for an extended period of time to prepare a place for her as his bride to live, usually connected to his father’s house.
- Jesus has given us gifts including the gift of his Holy Spirit during this time that He is away.

Ephesians 4:7-8 (NIV)

“But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. [8] This is why it says: ‘When He ascended on high, He led captives in His train and gave gifts to men.’”

John 14:2

“In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

[C] The Marriage Feast:

- The last phase of the marriage would occur when the bridegroom and friends would go to the bride’s house for a marriage ceremony and a great feast.
- The Marriage of the Lamb will be a time of great celebration that will signal the end of our separation from our Savior!

(Matthew 25:1-13, Revelation 19:7-9)

Personal Application:
