

Heritage Alliance Church January 14, 2024 Pastor Shawn Hubert

Awareness of Accountability

""Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your **reward** in heaven... If you love only those who love you, what **reward** is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much... Watch out! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will **lose the reward** from your Father in heaven. When you give to someone in need, don't do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you the truth, they have received all the **reward** they will ever get... Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will **reward** you... Then your Father, who sees everything, will **reward** you... store up for yourselves treasures in heaven..."

Matthew 5:11-12,46, 6:-1-4,18

"A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions. Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter." Matthew 7:17-21

Followers of Jesus live different because...

- we live with an awareness of eternity
- > we live with an awareness of accountability

"You are God's building... whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. "The fire will show if a person's work has any value. If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames."

"For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body." 2 Corinthians 5:10

"You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Who do you serve? Knowing you will give an account to Jesus...

- Gives meaning to your life
- Simplifies your life decisions
- > Focuses your life decisions
- Motivates you to make a difference
- Motivates you to live righteously

Questions: Do you live with awareness of eternity? Accountability? What do you think standing before Jesus for judgement will be like? Ready?