

Believer's Appearing Before the Judgment Seat of Christ

Question posed on my position by Brother J. C. Settlemoir, 11/21/18 via E-Mail.

“By His grace we are all well. We hope you all have a blessed thanksgiving.

Leon Writes: Thank you, brother. Yes, we pray you will have a blessed thanksgiving as well. God bless you all.

Question: What is your position on 2 Co 5:10. Do the saints have to answer for every sin committed?

Leon writes: My position is that we all, without exception, must appear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive for things done in the body. These are for our building upon the foundation of Christ. If we build with gold, silver, and precious stones (good works), then we shall receive a reward. If we build with wood, hay, stubble, then we shall suffer loss, but we, ourselves shall be saved. The day (of Christ) shall declare it. Our work (our whole life's work – not works) shall be tested by fire.

Another judgment for our sins again cannot be since Jesus Christ paid for every sin that every believer committed in all of their lives. Not only all the passages you mentioned are to be brought to bear. We dare not array the scriptures against one another. As New Testament (Covenant) believers, we are graft (See Romans 11) into the promises made to Israel in the New Covenant. That covenant is crystal clear – and I believe is the real foundation for what we commonly call “eternal security” of the believer. Watch this:

Heb 8:6-13 (KJV) But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. 7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought

for the second. 8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

Heb 10:16-17 (KJV) This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Does not these promises in the Epistle to the Hebrews apply to us as well? We have a new and better covenant established on better promises, with a better sacrifices, and a better hope.

How does this comport with those passages such as 1 Jn 1:7-10; Is 38:17; Is 44:22; Is 43:25; Is 1:18; Je 50:20; Is 64:9; Mi 7:19; Ps 32: 1-2; Ps 103:12; Ps 79:8; Je 14:21; Ezk 16:60; Je 31:34

Ho 13:1;2

Jo 14:16-17

1 Jn 1:7-10

Mt 18:21-35

As the Lord cautions us to forgive those who have sinned against us when they repent, will He then bring up sins for which we have repented of at this Judgment?

Leon writes: Yes. We are cautioned again and again about the lack of forgiveness of those who have trespassed against us. If we hold grudges upon others, as the forgiven servant of the king did in Matthew 18:21-35), it seems clear to me that we shall be “delivered unto the tormentors” in this life until we pay all that is due – that is, until we actually forgive all who have trespassed against us.

Leon writes: Does not God judge us now in this life on a continuing basis. If we have sinned and will not judge ourselves, then the LORD has assured us that He will “judge” us – and when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.” (1Co. 11:31-32). I connect this with 1Jn 1:9-10. In order to stay away from the judgment of the Lord (chastening), we are to confess our sins. When we confess those things we know we have done, the LORD not only is faithful to forgive us, but also to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (the things of which we are not aware – but are guilty).

“All his sins will be utterly wiped out by the blood of Christ, removed as far as the east is from the west (Ps 103:12), cast into the depths of the sea (Mi 7:19), blotted out, year, blotted out as a thick cloud (Is 43:25; 44:22), not to be found forever. **All the imperfections of his good works will also be removed forever. (Exception: Leon writes: Our works done in the body are judged at the judgment seat of Christ as noted above – not our sins.)** No inquisition will or can be made into any believer’s sins. In their place will be found only Christ’s blood and righteousness.” Lenski. 2 Co 5:10, p. 1016.

Leon writes: Amen and amen, with the noted exception above.

All that I would add to Lenski’s comment is, I would put this into the present tense. This is not something that will be done, but that which was done in the mind of God from eternity and actually from the death

of Christ on the cross. There is no way to make this glorious work to be future.—JC.

Leon writes: I think I understand you to mean that the judgment seat is present. I have hear others say that also. I do believe the LORD judges us all without exception in that he presently chastens every son that he receives. Still think the judgment for our works done upon the foundation of Christ will be judged in the future after we are resurrected. The question is rewards, not sin.