

THE CONCEPT OF REWARDS IN HEAVEN

INTRODUCTION

1. The idea of REWARD accompanies, almost of necessity, belief in a personal God.
2. What is at the end of a faithful Christian Life?

I. THE CONCEPT OF REWARD IS LAID DOWN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

- A. Matt. 19:29 "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold and inherit everlasting life."
- B. Matt. 25:14-30 In the parable of the Talents, Jesus said: "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord."
- C. Matt. 20:1-16 (verse 8) "So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.'"
1. The Lord of the Vineyard had the right to give the denarius to those who came at the **third**, **sixth**, **ninth** and **eleventh** hour. It was his right to REWARD whom and with what he pleased.
- D. Luke 6:22-23 "Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, For the Son of Man's sake. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven."
- E. Matt. 10:40-42. "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me ... And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."
1. Every good deed we do for others will come back to us many fold - even so-called small things.

(See also Mark 9:41)

- F. Luke 6:35 "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Highest. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil."
- G. Luke 12:20-21 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided? So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.'"
- H. Mark 10:21 "Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, 'One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.'"
- I. Matt. 6:19-21 "..... lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven ..."
- J. Luke 12:41-48 (In the parable of the unjust Steward) "Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has."
- K. 2 Timothy 4:7-8 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 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."
- L. A REWARD IS PREDICATED ON OUR BEING FAITHFUL:
1. Rev. 2:7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."
 2. Rev. 2:10 "... be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
 3. Rev. 2:11 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."
 4. Rev. 3:5 "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."

5. Rev. 3:12 "He who also overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name."
6. Rev. 3:20-21 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne."

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7. Rev. 22:14 "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."

O for a home with God,
a place in His courts to rest.