The Judgment Seat of Christ

Goal of this study: helps us to . . .

- Fear God. Ec.12:13-14
- Forsake sins. Ac.17:23, inscription...
 (2 Pt.3:5)
- Focus on life. 2 Co.5:9-10
 - "Must": cannot refuse the summons, claim credit of others, or hide

Judgment seat of ...

- Pilate, Mt.27:19
- Gallio, Ac.18:12
- Festus, Ac.25:6
- Christ, 2 Co.5:10
 - Pilate, Gallio, Festus...will stand before Christ

I. Universal Judgment: all

Mt.25:31-32, all the nations...

- Gn.22:18, invitation to all nations... [Ac.2]
- Hb.9:27, appointed

'I believe there are two forces which move us. One is a belief in a last judgment when every one of us has to account for what he did with God's great gift of life on earth. The other is belief in an immortal soul...which will cherish the award or suffer the penalty decreed in a final judgment' – Von Braun

I. Universal Judgment: all

II. Revealing Judgment: appear [made manifest, ASV]

Heb.4:12-13

- Some secrets can be kept from human courts
 - Hijackers . . . Killers . . . Fugitives . . .
- 'Manifest' greatest publicity; futile to conceal sins here...only to have them exposed before the universe at the Judgment
 - Gn.3⁹ Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.
 - 2 Sm.11-12, David tried to hide...

I. Universal Judgment: all

II. Revealing Judgment: appear

III. Personal Judgment: body

Ezk.18:20, not judged by others' actions

- Jn.21:21, Peter
- Rom.2:14-16, Gentiles
- Judgment scenes reveal verdicts...
 - Mt.25:20, 22, 24-25
 - -Ac.24:24-25
- May give account for others' sins?? Ezk.3:18

- I. Universal Judgment: all
- II. Revealing Judgment: appear
 - III. Personal Judgment: body

IV. Relevant to our Earthly Life: body

2 Cor.7:1, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God

- No purgatory
- No second chance after death

- I. Universal Judgment: all
- II. Revealing Judgment: appear
 - III. Personal Judgment: body
 - IV. Relevant Judgment: body

V. Righteous Judgment: done ... good / bad

- Sin: do what is forbidden or do not do what is commanded
- Not all share in the house from heaven (v.1ff.).
 2 Co.5:10, 'receive a recompense for what (each) has done during life in the body' BDAG
- Mt.6:21, For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also

2 Thes.1:6-8

- Saved receive rest
- Wicked receive affliction
- Some are bothered by the prosperity of wicked and problems of godly
 - Ps.73, individual
 - Hab.1, nation

2 Thes.1:6-8

- Pharaoh tried to drown male babies...
- Haman plotted to wipe out Jews...
- Advisors to Darius tried to kill Daniel...
- Unbelieving Jews killed Jesus to save nation, Jn.11

2 Thes.1:6-8

- Prosperity of the wicked is an <u>illusion</u>.
 <u>Balaam</u>.
- Prosperity of the wicked is <u>temporary</u>.
 Rich fool, Lk.12.
- Prosperity of the wicked is <u>noose</u> around their neck – so wedded to this world that they can't think about their soul. Lk.16 ... Lk.18

- I. Universal Judgment: all
- II. Revealing Judgment: appear
 - III. Personal Judgment: body
 - IV. Relevant Judgment: body
- V. Righteous Judgment: done...good/bad

VI. Consequential Judgment: eternal consequences

Mt.25:34, eternal life / 41, eternal punishment

- Explains 2 Pt.3:9 . . . Longsuffering
- Mt.26:24, Jesus contrasts His present state of humility with His future stage of glory . . . and those who are too foolish to listen