

08-08-10

Series: The Resurrections

The Resurrections (17)

What Happens to Christians Who Die?

([1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#))

Pastor Eddie Ildefonso

[Matthew 28:1-10](#)

(Continuation from 08-08-10)

The Doctrine of the Resurrections

([1 Thessalonians 4:13-18](#))

When will the Judgment Seat of Christ Occur?

[2 Corinthians 5:10](#) (NASB)

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

The Judgment of believers will occur immediately following the rapture. The rapture is a future event, an imminent event, when all born again believers will be caught up in the air by Jesus and taken home, by Him, to Heaven. The timing of the Judgment Seat of Christ is given in the following scriptures:

1. In [Luke 14:12-14](#), reward is associated with the resurrection and the rapture is when the church is resurrected. The term “**Church**” refers to believers.

[Luke 14:12-14](#) (NASB)

¹² And He also went on to say to the one who had invited Him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, otherwise they may also invite you in return and *that* will be your repayment.

¹³ "But when you give a reception, invite *the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,*

¹⁴ and you will be blessed, since they do not have *the means* to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

2. In [Revelation 19:8](#), when the Lord returns with His bride at the end of the tribulation, she is seen already rewarded. Her reward is described as fine linen, the righteous acts of the saints undoubtedly the result of rewards.

[Revelation 19:8](#) (NASB)

⁸ It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

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3. In [2 Timothy 4:8](#) and [1 Corinthians 4:5](#), rewards are associated with “**that day**” and with the Lord’s coming. Again, for the church this means the event of the rapture.

[2 Timothy 4:8 \(NASB\)](#)

⁸ in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

[1 Corinthians 4:5 \(NASB\)](#)

⁵ Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, *but wait* until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of *men's* hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

So the order of events will be (a) the rapture which includes our glorification or resurrection bodies, (b) exaltation into the heavens with the Lord, (c) examination before the *Bema*, and (d) compensation or rewards.