

The Judgment Seat of Christ

by Michael Koulianos

At the judgment seat of Christ, every Christian will give an account of themselves to God, and their works will be tested by fire to determine their eternal reward.

Duration: 35:13

Scripture: Romans 14:10

Topics: "Judgment Seat", "Accountability", "Judgment"

Description

Michael Koulianos emphasizes the significance of the Judgment Seat of Christ, urging believers to recognize that everyone will stand before God to give an account of their lives. He stresses the importance of living with pure motives and the need for prayer to break the enemy's schemes that hinder souls from coming to Christ. Koulianos highlights that our works will be tested by fire, revealing their true quality, and encourages the church to focus on building with eternal values rather than temporary gains. He calls for a deeper commitment to Jesus and a desire for more souls and healings, reminding the congregation that how they build their lives and ministries matters greatly in light of eternity.

Transcript

the second coming of Jesus. Amen? All right, thank you, Joel. Let's test it out and see.

All right, take your Bibles, if you would, to Romans 14, verses 10 through 13. Also, for you prayer warriors, which hopefully that's all of you, I've been asking our team, our staff, our leaders to make it a matter of prayer, specifically this, regarding our gatherings and our outreaches. Number one, that the Lord's presence would increase.

Number two, that more souls would come into the kingdom. Number three, that there'd be more healings to test, more miracles, I should say, because that could go beyond healing, to testify of the name of Jesus. Amen? So I want to ask you guys, if you can for a moment, if you have a real Bible, to write that into your Bible on the cover page.

Those three things. Number one, more of the presence of Jesus. Number two, more souls.

I'm grateful for every soul that's been saved. Everyone, Sunday morning and Sunday night, but I feel like we've hit a plateau and the ceiling needs to break, and that ceiling will only break with prayer. I had a dream, and in the dream I saw the powers of the enemy, plotting, whispering to people who were walking

into our services, lies.

The people were believing the lies and then not receiving the gospel. You know, the Bible says that the God of this age has blinded people to the gospel. What I gathered in that dream is that prayer and prayer alone would break the enemy's schemes so that every single person who's not born again, when they walk into these rooms, actually gets saved on Sunday morning and Sunday night.

Amen? I'm very grateful, but I'm not content. I want more souls. I said I want more souls.

You need to want more souls because the hour is late. I want more healings. The reason I want more healings is because Jesus paid for them all, and I don't want anyone to suffer.

Amen? All right. Romans chapter 14 verses 10 through 13. But why do you judge your brother? I could preach on that one.

Or why do you show contempt to your brother? Preach on that one too. For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Who is the book of Romans written to? This is so tricky.

The church in Rome. There you go. Most likely, Peter planted that church.

Paul is writing here. So it's interesting that Paul, when you read Paul's words to the Romans, they're different than they are to words. I should say they're different words than he would share with other believing churches in that he planted them.

And so Paul actually says, I'm built on no other man's foundation. So we've got to kind of up our game as to how the church should function. Paul was possessed and going places or into areas where God was not being preached, where the gospel is not being preached, breaking in the kingdom through the preaching of the gospel and the power of the Holy Spirit, and then raising up people in the word of God and the presence of God.

And they would be longstanding churches. Some are still around today. Imagine that.

So Paul here is addressing the Roman church. Therefore, they are Christians. And so he tells Christians that all shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

Now, some people teach that because they've received the grace of God, that they will not stand at the judgment. That is completely wrong. And I'll get into that hopefully at some point.

But what I want to make very clear here is that every one of us will stand before the judgment seat. Now, Paul goes on to explain, for it is written as I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me and every tongue confess to God. So then listen carefully.

Each of us shall give an account of himself to God. So Paul begins by saying we will all stand before the judgment. Now he begins to tell us what will happen when we stand.

And one of the things that will happen is this. We will give an account to the Lord. Now, it would be horrible pastoring if I just blew through that one.

Because the weight of the reality is indescribable. You say, I don't want to be afraid. Well, I guess that would depend on your definition.

But I do want you to be sober, incredibly sober. Have you ever given an account, let's just say, just prior to April 15th? Hopefully you all do. Don't cheat on your taxes.

I'm praying tongues. No, no, no, no, no. When you give an account, you literally go through a ledger and it's incredibly detailed.

What account will we give to the Lord? The things that we've done in the body, the thoughts thought, and I've taught on this before, the motives of our heart will be revealed. This is a big deal. I said this is a big deal.

Let me keep reading. Therefore, let us not judge one another anymore. So what he's basically saying is, you have too much to be concerned about in that you'll stand before the judgment and give an account.

You don't have time to worry about the person to your right and to your left. The account you're going to give is going to be so thorough, the light of God shining so brightly, heaven's x-ray machine, on everything you've ever done and the why behind it. You should be so preoccupied in being sure your motives are pure that you don't have time to judge your brother, but rather resolve this not to put a stumbling block or cause to fall in our brother's way.

First Corinthians 3, 9 through 15. Let's go there. You see how kind I was? I gave you Romans before Corinthians so you wouldn't get all tied up turning pages.

I hate to do that to you. Seeker friendly is what I'm going to get. So friendly to your fingers.

All right. First Corinthians 3, 9 through 15. For we are God's fellow workers.

You are God's field. What is he saying here? I am working as a workman of the Lord, as a servant. You, the church, are God's field.

You are God's building. Make sense? We are the house of the Lord. Jesus is the chief cornerstone and he is the substance that fills the house.

Let's keep reading. According to the grace of God which was given me, that means the supernatural empowering presence of the Holy Spirit that gives me ability I wouldn't have in the natural. As a wise master builder I have laid the foundation and another now builds on it.

So Paul plants the church there in Corinth. He lays the foundation that is Jesus Christ. He moves on.

Now he is riding the church and he is saying others are now building on that foundation. But let each one take heed. Are you Say how.

Say it again. How. How he builds on it.

So how matters. Now there are some mindsets regarding church building, church in general that is you just do whatever you have to do short of sin to get people in the room. It doesn't matter what you do as long as people get saved and fill the room.

We don't employ Satan to help us accomplish God's purposes on the earth. So how actually matters. In the context of the coming of the Lord and the judgment how really matters.

So Michelle for instance helps with our volunteers. She coordinates much of the service. So how Michelle invites people to help.

How she corrects people if they put a chair down upside down or whatever. I am sure way more can go wrong than that. But the how actually matters.

The behind the scenes. The fabric of Jesus image is actually occurring not only behind the pulpit but how our teams are led. Does that make sense to you? How matters.

How we get you into the room matters. Actually matters. What we preach and how we preach it matters.

That is part of the how. There are a few perspectives. You took a tithe.

People might get mad if you receive an offering for Afghanistan. They may think you are all about the money even if you are not touching the money. They may not like that.

But then I have the word of God. Paul writes remember my chains. Jesus said to those who would burn in everlasting fire you didn't visit me when I was sick.

You didn't visit me in prison. You didn't clothe me. You didn't feed me.

So now I have the word of God that contradicts the opinions of people and I have to choose the how. Does that make sense? This is all second coming related. This is all judgment seat related.

And it is important. This is very important. And that is what actually builds the culture of a ministry.

So when I walk in today for instance I walked in and looked at our team on the front row. Every one of them were worshiping. Every one.

And I made note of it. Yes, yes, yes, yes. I was looking for a no and I didn't see any.

That matters to me. So I don't pick the most gifted people. If they don't worship they cannot be on our staff.

Because that is not who we are. We are worshipers. Right? It is part of the how.

A wise master builder. Listen to what Paul writes here. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.

On what? The foundation he laid. Now he tells us what foundation that is. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid.

Which is Jesus Christ. So Paul is saying I planted this church and the foundation. How many of you? Do I have any contractors here? Anybody who has worked in contracting or construction? Okay.

How many of you would agree that if you get the foundation wrong you are going to have some major problems? So Paul says I laid a foundation. The person of Jesus. He says I don't want anyone else building with another substance.

Don't try to lay another foundation. Don't redefine what I laid. Today you have a whole movement trying to redefine the faith.

Oh man. Let me just read something to you that I got from somebody, from a pastor. This was on CBN News.

A new survey reveals 60% of Christians between the ages of 18 and 39 believe that Jesus is not the only way for salvation. I don't think you heard the headline. 60% of Christians, they think they are Christians, between the ages of 18 to 39 do not believe Jesus is the only way to salvation.

What is happening? You have people changing the foundation. Over generations we have moved the goal post and backed off the truth of the scriptures and 60% of the Christians in this survey said no there are other ways. Which would make the Father incredibly mean and abusive.

If there were another way to redeem mankind why would He allow Jesus to go through such a horrific death? Didn't Jesus pray that in the garden? Let this cup pass from me if there be another way. He said you can do anything if there be another way. Do it Father.

Well did the Father present another way? No. The scripture doesn't say He said anything. And do you know how much the Father loves Jesus? If there was another way certainly He would have tried.

But there wasn't. Well Jesus is the only way to heaven. Any other perspective is unchristian.

To be honest you shouldn't even be behind a pulpit if you can't figure that one out. You need to go do something else because certainly preachers of the gospel need to have that one in check. That Jesus and only Jesus and only His blood redeems mankind.

Amen? Say amen if you don't believe it. So Paul says here, Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work, I've taught on this before here in the morning, will become clear. Listen to this now.

Look at the next line. For the day will declare it. What does that mean? The day of the Lord, the coming of the Lord, and the judgment of the Lord will declare, it will reveal the quality of our work which we will all give an account for.

Now he goes on to talk about those two categories that I've talked about so many times. Silver, gold, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will be cleared or revealed. For the day will declare it because it will be revealed by what? You want to know what it's going to be like on that day? Fire is involved.

An account is involved. Standing is involved. Before a throne.

And look, you say this is too much. Then you don't get to believe the rest of the book. You don't.

Because this is the culmination. This is what it's all working to. Jesus having his church and her being purified.

If anyone's, let me go back. It will be revealed by fire and the fire will test each one's work. So there'll be fire and in that moment that will test our work of what sort it is.

So silver, gold, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble. How will fire, why will fire be used? Because if it's wood, hay and stubble, it will burn. Whatever doesn't burn is eternal and remains.

Those are the works you want to put your hands to. People say works don't matter. Oh, they do.

Jesus said that our good works would be like light. We should do good works unto men. The key is who is fueling the works.

If it's of the spirit, you have fruit that remains. If it's of the flesh and wrapped in a Christian package, it will burn. He is speaking to Christians here.

And the difference between the two is 100% motive. Thoughts of the heart. This is why reading your Bible is so important.

The Bible says this, that the word of God is sharper than any two edged sword. What are a few things that it can do? It divides the thoughts and intentions of the heart. It reveals them like it divides bone and marrow.

That's how sharp this sword is. It can cut a bone down the middle and show you what is bone and marrow. His word is so sharp that while I read it, if I read his word long enough, if Elizabeth stays in the word, she begins by reading the word.

And if she stays with him long enough, the word will start reading her. What do I mean by that? Jesus, while she's in her Bible, will start going, you remember what you did? Yeah, Lord, I did that. It was for you.

It was in church. I know, but can we talk about why you did that? Because everyone around you loved it. But you and I, we know why you did that one.

So maybe they clapped and I'm saying she does this. Maybe they clapped and gave you an applause. But we need to talk about this.

And so the Bible actually teaches that the word reveals the intentions of the heart. It is vital. Listen, if you want to give a healthy account and you want your work to remain forever, read your Bible.

Like read it now. Not right now, but you know what I'm saying. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss.

So what is this saying? This is saying this. Imagine bringing this whole lifetime of what you thought God wanted, but you got so clouded that you forgot what he told you in the very beginning. When you first met him, when he whispered simplicity into your soul, you first get born again, you go, I want to love you.

I want to feel your love and love you. And I want to love people around me. And somehow you start hanging out with believers and things get complicated.

Now I am, I am a kingdom man and I am going to shift culture and society all by myself. I am called to the fourth mountain. Here's my card.

Now you become a spiritual daughter of like six people. And now when you introduce yourself, you go, it's great to be here. I just want to serve.

By the way, these are my six spiritual parents and this is my gifting. All of this stuff just gets on you. You get slimed.

You get slimed by church stuff that isn't Jesus stuff. And so you talk more about your ministry than Jesus. And then you host events that are actually meant to tell everyone about your ministry rather than Jesus,

which is proof the Holy Ghost isn't leading it because he has a one track mind.

This is Jesus Christ. I'm saying this from firsthand experience. The Lord whispered to me, if people know more about your ministry than Jesus, it's just proof I'm not leading your meetings, Michael.

All right. Well, you don't want that to happen. You don't want to do all that and then one day stand before the throne with your big old bag and go, here's everything I did.

And the Lord goes, you don't get to enjoy the glorious rewards for the entire age to come, which is forever. But then you'll get like this one lady, maybe she's born in Oviedo, never left Oviedo. We have somebody on our team.

She goes, did you know Oviedo is the celery capital of the world? So I didn't know that. It was at some point. Thank you very much.

That's awesome. So you get this one lady from Oviedo. Nobody knows her name.

She doesn't have an Instagram, but she reads her Bible every day and she's purposed in her heart. I'm going to read the Bible. I'm going to pray.

I'm going to take care of my family. I'm going to love my husband. I'm going to make sure my children are taken care of and they hear the Word of God.

I'm going to tend to my marriage and make sure it's the greatest marriage in Oviedo. I'm going to simply love Jesus, love my family, and love other people, and whoever comes up this porch while I'm drinking my lemonade on my rocking chair. I am going to share the love of God with, and I'm not going to tell anybody about it.

I don't have a way to tell anybody about it. I don't have an Instagram, but I'm going to store all this treasure that's eternal. And she goes to the throne and every bit of her offering makes it through in the age to come.

And then this big preacher comes around with all his or her ideas, all of these justifications that live in our minds. When we try to justify our mixture, when God does challenge the why, we say, well, it's for souls. It's for building the church.

It's for this and that. And God goes, that's great, but I never asked for any of that. Give me your bag.

And it burns. You say, I just don't care if it burns. You will when there are six wing creatures covered in eyes inside and out looking on.

You will care. I really don't care as long as I get in. That is the dumbest thing I've heard in the last five minutes.

You're going to care. Paul said, I got caught up to the third heaven and heard things it's not even lawful for a human to talk about. Can I bless you just quickly? A little side blessing? There's some fried okra on the side.

All right. You can tell it's Sunday and I'm hungry. Help me, Lord.

Say it the right way. Don't believe everyone who tells you they go to heaven all the time. Please.

If somebody tells you they go to heaven all the time and tell you everything they heard up there, it's a different heaven than Paul went to. Because Paul said, I heard stuff it's not even lawful for a human to talk about. All right.

That was the okra. Let's get back in. Give me five more minutes.

Can I have five more minutes? All right. Second Corinthians 5 verses 9 through 10. Do you realize that you guys are being so filled with the word of God? You're going to roundhouse the devil.

You're going to throat punch the devil. You're getting so filled. This stuff is going to seep into your children.

It's going to change your home. I'm telling you. I'm telling you God is taking the legs of your soul and rooting them in His eternal purposes.

Second Corinthians 5 verses 9 through 10. Therefore we, this is Paul speaking, make it our aim whether present or absent to be well pleasing to Him. So he goes, hey, you're questioning my apostolic authority.

Let me tell you who I live. Whether I'm with you or not with you, I make it my aim to please Jesus. Michael Miller from Upper Room said something last year.

I thought it was so powerful when he came through. They're coming through again soon. It's going to be awesome.

But he said something. God is raising up leaders who are led. If someone is not being led by the cloud and by fathers and mothers, I would not get in line following them.

I personally wouldn't. On Wednesday night we had a chance to talk to, I think almost 200 people came again. Tuesday night came again saying at our new membership gathering saying, I want a covenant here.

That's amazing. What an honor. But one of the things we shared with them was this, that we are accountable here.

We are led here by the Lord ultimately and by moms and dads, by mothers and fathers who can correct us, love us, and encourage us. This is very important. So Paul says here, we make it our aim whether present or absent to be well pleasing to Him.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ that each one may receive the things done in the body according to what he has done whether good or bad. Let me end with this. Help me there, Joel.

Okay. Let me tell you how the kingdom works and how ultimately King Jesus works because He is His kingdom. Just stay with me here.

I know it's warm. But how many of you know we can deal with our first world issues here? Let's up our game a little bit. All right.

If I go up to Ryan or Jenna and I say, receive the grace of the Holy Spirit. Receive an importation. If I pray for them that they would be strengthened and more complete with any gifts God has given me, God can transfer anointing through the laying on of hands.

He absolutely can. Now typically, now listen, I'm a more guy, if that makes sense to you. I want more.

We need more. I want such a glory to fall on our church and on our lives personally that it sends a shock wave of fear through the enemy. The Bible actually says that the Pharisees feared the early church because of the glory on them.

I'll take it, Jesus. Amen? I'll take it, Jesus. We're under a better covenant.

I want more. But what I need to realize is if I run up to someone and say, pray for me. I'm just hungry for more.

I actually do have a responsibility. What we've taught people is just get through the fire tunnel. I've seen people put GoPros on their head going through fire tunnels.

I'm not joking. And I saw the playback. It was like, he had it on his head.

I'm glad I didn't see him. I wouldn't have prayed for him. But I'm like, dude, you don't go through.

This is holy. This is a holy thing. I don't think you understand what's happening here.

What we're not telling them is if I get my hands on you, you're going to give an account. Not to me, to God. That's what we need to tell a generation.

Be hungry for more. But you need to realize when you get it, you're going to give an account for it. That account will be broken down into two areas.

You ready? Multiplication and purity. Those two columns will be the columns by which God judges when you give the account. What do I mean by that? Well, if I put my hands on a Jesus School student and a healing anointing gets on them, they better bring more to the table at the judgment seat than I have.

They better bring more. I remember Jesse's dad gave me a prophecy at our wedding. It didn't make any sense.

It seemed impossible. It still does. However, it is the ways of God.

God takes us from glory to glory to glory to glory. Of His government there shall be no end. We see the ever exponential increase of God's dominion over the sick, over the lost, over devils.

It should grow and go from glory to glory. So I've got news for you. If you come up for more here, you better settle in your soul.

I'm giving an account. So the one column is more. There must be increase.

And in the kingdom, in the spirit, there is more often multiplication than addition in small amounts. You better bring a multiplied harvest. That's number one.

Number two, it must be a more pure form. So our Jesus School students, our church here, you have to ask yourself if you really, I'm just being honest, if you really want to be sons and daughters of the anointing, then there is a way to live in that realm. And that is you must go after Jesus more than your fathers and mothers did.

This keeps you from glorying in their breakthrough. It's one thing to honor their breakthrough. It's another to glory in their stories.

This is the way of the kingdom. And this is what the Lord will look at at the judgment. You received, let's just say for conversation's sake, four ounces of oil in your spirit.

When that person prayed for you, you better come with 20. How do I get it from four to 20? The same way you got the four. Tenacious pursuit of Jesus.

Once you get it, the way to see it multiplied is by doing what got you there. So you ask God, use me. He uses you.

And then He starts using you and you're turning away sick people and it should bother you. So you have to go back to the same Jesus who set you up for the initial touch from the Spirit. Go back to Him on the same terms and go, I need more.

It was fasting, prayer, whatever that was that got me there. I'm going to do it today to get more. And that's the way it works.

You receive that? So let me just sum it up by saying this. One day Jesus will return. We will give an account.

He will meticulously look through our life at which point, notice it says He doesn't give an account. We give the account. I don't want to fumble over my words there.

He's going to say, I'm ready for the account. My God, thank you for the Holy Spirit. Because just to get a word out in that atmosphere is going to be miraculous.

May our lives pass the test. Amen.

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