

Sunday, June 15, 2014—The Judgment Seat of Christ—What Does It Mean to Reign With Christ, Part 3

Introduction/Review

- II Timothy 2:12—our side bar over the past two weeks into what it means to reign with Christ was promoted by our studies of the faithful saying of II Timothy 2:11-13.
- After having established that all believers will reign Christ as a matter of FACT. Two weeks ago I began to addressing some of the misconceptions that people have about what it means to reign with Christ. When read as statements of CONDITION, suffering in II Timothy 2:12 results in a greater position of reigning. Suffer now reign later. Don't suffer now and you will not reign later. Suffer a lot and you gain a great position of reigning later. Maximize your suffering now and you will maximize your reign in eternity. Fail to suffer and you won't reign.
- Mark 10:42-45—reining with Christ in his kingdom is not about authoritarian power and elitism it's about service.
 - Philippians 2:5-11—Christ was given a name above every name as a result of his capacity for service.
 - Colossians 1:18—Christ has been made the preeminent one in all things, i.e., the greatest of the chiefest.
- Ephesians 1:20-23, 2:6, 6:12—the destiny of the body of Christ is to reign and rule with Christ in the heavenly places. Those places of governmental authority that we will one day occupy are currently in possession of Satan and his angles.
 - Revelation 12:7-12—in the middle of the 70th week of Daniel there will be war in heaven and Satan and his angles will be expelled and sent down to the earth.
- Hebrews 1:13-14— fundamentally angles were created to be “ministering spirits” to serve God in whatever capacities he deemed necessary. In the Ages to Come members of the body of Christ will fulfill these service capacities in the heavenly government.
- Ephesians 1:22-23— Christ has been made the head over all these positions of governmental authority to the church, i.e., for the benefit of the church which is his body. what is the church which is his body? It is the fullness of Christ. The English word “fullness” carries the following meanings: 1) The state of being filled, **so as to leave no part vacant**. 2) The state of abounding or being in great plenty; abundance. 3) Completeness; the state of a thing in which nothing is wanted; perfection.
- The body of Christ the fullness of Christ that will be used by Christ to fill all in all. They body of Christ will fill up the vacated positions of service left by 1/3 of an innumerable company. Could it be that what determines the timing of the catching up of the church the body of Christ is when

that body is sizable enough to fill up the heavenly government and accomplish the purpose for which God formed the body and ushered in the dispensation of grace?

- At the end of last week's message we began discussing the situation with Adam and how God created man to server him. It is to this discussion that I would like to focus our attention for the majority of this message.

Mankind: Designed for Creative Service

- Proverbs 3:19-20—when God created he did so by wisdom, understanding, and knowledge.
- Genesis 1:26-28—even in the original creation before the fall God created man to serve him. God put knowledge, wisdom, and understanding into the creation and then sent mankind out to discover it. Adam was to add value to what was already there.
- Genesis 2:15—Adam had a job to do. Work only became drudgery after the fall.
- Genesis 2:16—Adam could freely eat anything that he wanted to. Adam was free to investigate the creation and use the wisdom, understanding, and knowledge that God had put in him.
- Genesis 1:3-5—what did God call the light? Day
- Genesis 2:18-20—God made the animals here and brought them to man to see what he would call them. Adam functioning in the image of God was able to utilize his wisdom, understanding, and knowledge to name the name the animals and in doing so he realized that there was not help meet for him.
- Exodus 31:1-5—Bezaleel was able to take the knowledge, wisdom, and understanding that God filled him with to extract out of creation that which God put there to create new workmanship.
 - II Timothy 2:15—“. . . a **workman** that needeth not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth.”
- Isaiah 28:23-27—the farmer learns via work how to sow, plant, and thresh.
- Luke 16:1-8—they have figured out how the world worked and then took advantage. For the children of this world—the source of their life and thinking is the world. They direct their effort toward making the world work from them. Meanwhile children of the light are off looking for miraculous provisions.

Reining In Life

- Proverbs 2:1-6—the writer of Proverbs compares seeking after wisdom, knowledge, and understanding to searching for hid treasure. How are you and I using the wisdom, understating, and knowledge that come from God’s word to serve him?
- Colossians 1:9-14—as believers we need to reign like Adam and be looking to extract value out of lives. Believes will do in the heavens what man was put on earth to do down here. We have been given the same thing do in the heavenly realm. What he gave man on the earth is the example/picture or what we will do in the heavens. Different realm same dominion mandate.
- Colossians 2:2-3—in Christ are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. As members of the body of Christ we need to be endeavoring to harness the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding that is in Christ and put it on display now. We need to be about developing skills for servant leadership in eternity.
- I Corinthians 6:1-5—Paul rebukes the Corinthians for the lack of wisdom. If believers are going to judge the angelic world they ought to be able to settle matters between themselves.
- Romans 5:14, 17—as believers by the grace of God we have the capacity to reign in life by Jesus Christ. We have the capacity to function on the basis of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding in the details of our lives. To mine out of Christ the hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge. To no live defeated feckless lives but to make a different in eternity by taking up the reigns and reigning in our own lives and serving the Lord Jesus Christ.

Conclusion

- Ephesians 2:7— eternity is going to be an every expanding advancement. It’s not about position, power control, and dominion. It is about one’s capacity to utilize the knowledge, wisdom, and understanding in the service of God. Throughout all the ages of eternity God is wow us and blow us away as he educates in the exceeding riches of this grace and his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.
- Ephesians 2:10—funny how this issue of workmanship keeps coming up all the time. We allow ourselves to be Christ workmanship when we:
 - II Timothy 2:15—study as a workman so that we can
 - Colossians 2:2-3—mine out of God’s word the treasures of wisdom and knowledge that are hidden in Christ so that we can
 - Colossians 3:16—let the word of Christ dwell in us richly so that
 - II Corinthians 4:11—the life of Christ can be made manifest in our mortal flesh which will allow us to
 - Romans 5:17—reign in life by Jesus Christ.

- Reigning is administering the government of heaven by doing the job God gave you to do.
- Luke 17:7-10—the servant does woe is me I didn't have a higher position. His mind is I am doing exactly what my job told me to do. So no matter what position you have in the service we need to have the attitude of the unprofitable servant.