

The Encouraging Message of Judgment

Charles Stanley

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: II Corinthians 5.
- B. There will only be encouragement in the judgment of the believer.

II. Who the judge is gives encouragement to the believer.

- A. Christ is the judge. (Romans 14:9)
- B. God the Father has chosen to give all judgment unto His Son who is the Savior of the world. (John 5:22)
- C. Jesus is the one who loves us unconditionally.

III. The judgment will be fair and accurate—Jesus is perfectly fair.

- A. He is accurate because He is omniscient.
- B. He will judge us according to the light we have received and understood.

IV. The purpose of the judgment is evaluation and reward.

- A. God will reward us with responsibility in heaven to serve God and an increased capacity to glorify God. (Revelation 4)
- B. The implication of the judgment is that we will be made aware of our personal significance.
- C. God made us a person of worth through the cross.

Application questions:

1. How can it be said that judgment is encouraging for believers?

2. How would you respond to someone who says Jesus' omniscience is a reason to fear the judgment?

3. Why is more responsibility in heaven to serve God something for which to look forward? Explain.
