



WEEKLY CHRISTIAN FOCUS

REWARDS IN THIS LIFE AND BEYOND!

Ruth 2:12

The Lord recompense you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the Lord, the God of Israel, under Whose wings you have come to take refuge! (Boaz speaks to Ruth)

There are two things which are very important in this life, and which will encourage us greatly as Christians, as well as strengthen us to do greater things for Jesus Christ.

One of them is the knowledge of Salvation, (and eternal life) the understanding that this is free by the sacrifice of the Lamb, Jesus Christ! There are scores of verses about this in the Bible, and we have published an entire edition of the WCF about Salvation before! (See edition number 88; if you don't, then please email us for a free pdf copy at wcf@nym.hush.com)

The second thing, I believe, is 'Rewards'. This means understanding that God is giving us not only free Salvation, but also 'Rewards' for our labours of Love, and **any** tiny sacrifice of ourselves for His Kingdom! In this issue we can prove that comprehensively with the verses that are coming below.

First though, it is important to understand this difference between 'Salvation' and 'Rewards'

Salvation is free from God, to those of the human race who have received Jesus in their hearts and believe in His Sacrifice for their sins.** Rewards, however, are available for anyone who does anything for God (Jesus) from their heart! How much reward from God you wish to obtain in the next beautiful world we are all going to, depends entirely and 100% upon you.

Also we are not doing any good works with the intention of getting a reward, like prizes we get when we are kids, but rather we just do those 'good things' because we love God and appreciate all He has done for us!

** Titus 1:2

In hope (expectation) of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; KJV

AMP based on the hope and divine guarantee of eternal life, [the life] which God, who is ever truthful and without deceit, promised before the ages of time began,

AMPC

[Resting] in the hope of eternal life, [life] which the ever truthful God Who cannot deceive promised before the world or the ages of time began. AMP

Additionally I could say that we are rewarded by God for many things IN and during this life

and we don't even have to wait until heaven for some rewards! You will see this by some of the verses below.

Let's begin this study, with this famous verse in both the Old and New Testaments.



Isaiah 64:4

For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.

1 Corinthians 2:9

But as it is written, **Eye hath not seen,** nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God **hath** prepared for them that love him.

So here we find that God has prepared 'things' for us, things that we cannot imagine, think about or comprehend and have never seen before, if we love Him,

(which we do!). This is a promise in Isaiah and repeated in the New Testament.

The understanding of Biblical people about rewards in this life: These rewards included both rewards for those following and clinging to God, and those 'wicked' who did not.

1 Samuel 24:19

For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go away unharmed? Therefore may the Lord **reward** you with good for what you have done for me this day. (King Saul to David).

1 Samuel 26:23

The Lord **rewards** every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness; for the Lord delivered you into my hands today, but I would not stretch forth my hand against the Lord's anointed. (King Saul to David).

2 Samuel 22:21

The Lord **rewarded** me according to my uprightness with Him; He compensated and benefited me according to the cleanness of my hands.

1 Kings 8:32

Then hear in heaven and do and judge Your servants, condemning the wicked by bringing his guilt upon his own head and justifying the [uncompromisingly] righteous by **rewarding** him according to his righteousness (his uprightness, right standing with God).

2 Chronicles 15:7

Be strong, therefore, and let not your hands be weak and slack, for your work shall be **rewarded**.

Psalms 18:20

The Lord **rewarded** me according to my righteousness (my conscious integrity and sincerity with Him); according to the cleanness of my hands has He recompensed me.

Psalms 19:11

Moreover, by them (God's Precepts/Words) is Your servant warned (reminded, illuminated, and instructed); and in keeping them there is great **reward**.

Psalms 57: 1

Be merciful and gracious to me, O God, be merciful and gracious to me, for my soul takes refuge and finds shelter and confidence in You; yes, in the shadow of Your wings will I take refuge and be confident until calamities and destructive storms are passed.

2 I will cry to God Most High, Who performs on my behalf and **rewards** me [Who brings to pass His purposes for me and surely completes them]!

3 He will send from heaven and save me from the slanders and reproaches of him who would trample me down or swallow me up, and He will put him to shame. Selah [pause, and calmly think of that]! God will send forth His mercy and loving-kindness and His truth and faithfulness.

Psalms 58:11

Men will say, Surely there is a reward for the [uncompromisingly] righteous; surely there is a God Who judges on the earth.



Psalms 91:8

Only a spectator shall you be [yourself inaccessible in the secret place of the Most High] as you witness the **reward** of the wicked.

Psalms 103:10

He has not dealt with us after our sins nor **rewarded** us according to our iniquities.



Psalms 127:3

Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a **reward**. (our children are even our reward from God. *Without God blessing the seed and the egg, there could be no new life or soul born into this world.*)

Proverbs 5:17

[Confine yourself to your own wife] let your children be for you alone, and not the children of strangers with you.

18 Let your fountain [of human life] be blessed [with the rewards of fidelity], and

rejoice in the wife of your youth.
 19 Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant doe [tender, gentle, attractive]—let her bosom satisfy you at all times, and always be transported with delight in her love.



Proverbs 11:18

The wicked man earns deceitful wages, but he who sows righteousness (moral and spiritual rectitude in every area and relation) shall have a sure **reward** [permanent and satisfying].

Proverbs 22:4

The **reward** of humility and the reverent and worshipful fear of the Lord is riches and honour and life. Riches and honour and life only the reward for those who fulfill those conditions!

Proverbs 23:18

For surely there is a latter end [a future and a **reward**], and your hope and expectation shall not be cut off.

Isaiah 40:10

Behold, the Lord God will come with might, and His arm will rule for Him. **Behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him.**

Isaiah perhaps above almost

all prophets knew the Lord and his system of Rewards

11 He will feed His flock like a shepherd: He will gather the lambs in His arm, He will carry them in His bosom and will gently lead those that have their young.

People of God in the past understood that it was necessary for them and God to give a full (or partial) reward to those people who did good to them. This almost went without saying. We often modern so-called believers, say today, 'God bless you' but actually we don't fully understand what we are saying, and we may actually be saying this to the very wrong people! I am amazed in the UK that many Christian leaders sign off their emails by saying 'every blessing'. Well, that **sounds** terrific, but the 'every blessing' is really talking about rewards, and if you or I have done little for God, you are not entitled to '**every** blessing'! You may be entitled to some or a few blessings, so this grieves me how slack some pastors are to wish this upon people.

Jeremiah 32:19

Great are You in counsel and mighty in deeds, Whose eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men, to **reward** or repay each one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings,

And we should end in closing in the Old Testament with this very clear description of the righteous rising from the dead, as compared to those who did not know God. This may be shocking to some of you!

Daniel 12:2-3

And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake: some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt and abhorrence.

3 And the teachers and those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness (to uprightness and right standing with God) [shall give forth light] like the stars forever and ever.

The New Testament and the Book of Revelation speaking about Rewards.

Matthew 5:11

Blessed (happy, to be envied, and spiritually prosperous—with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favour and salvation, regardless of your outward conditions) are you when people revile you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil things against you falsely on My account. 12 Be glad and supremely joyful, for your **reward** in heaven is great (**strong and intense**), for in this same way people persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 6:1

Take care not to do your good deeds publicly or before men, in order to be seen by them; otherwise you will have no reward [reserved for and awaiting you] with and from your Father Who is in heaven.

Matthew 6:2

Thus, whenever you give to the poor, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites in the synagogues and in the streets like to do,

that they may be recognized and honored and praised by men. Truly I tell you, they have their **reward** in full already.

Matthew 6:4

So that your deeds of charity may be in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will **reward** you openly.

Matthew 6:5

Also when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by people. Truly I tell you, they have their **reward** in full already.

Matthew 6:6

But when you pray, go into your [most] private room, and, closing the door, pray to your Father, Who is in secret; and your Father, Who sees in secret, will **reward** you in the open.

Matthew 10:41

He who receives and welcomes and accepts a prophet because he is a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward, and he who receives and welcomes and accepts a righteous man because he is a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

Matthew 10:42

And whoever gives to one of these little ones [in rank or influence] even a cup of cold water because he is My disciple, surely I declare to you, he shall not lose his reward. **Here we finally come to the amazing verse, that even if you give a cup of cold water to a disciple,**

missionary or servant of God, you will receive a reward!

Matthew 16:27

For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory (majesty, splendour) of His Father with His angels, and then He will render account and reward every man in accordance with what he has done.

Mark 9:41

For I tell you truly, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to and bear the name of Christ will by no means fail to get his reward.

Luke 6:23

Rejoice and be glad at such a time and exult and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is rich and great and strong and intense and abundant in heaven; for even so their forefathers treated the prophets. **Get it? The persecuted church now and in history is way ahead of us!**



Let's ask God for ourselves to catch up and share in the suffering of Christ, Amen?

Luke 6:35

But love your enemies and be kind and do good [doing favors so that someone

derives benefit from them] and lend, expecting and hoping for nothing in return but considering nothing as lost and despairing of no one; and then your recompense (your **reward**) will be great (rich, strong, intense, and abundant), and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind and charitable and good to the ungrateful and the selfish and wicked.

Luke 14:11

For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled (ranked below others who are honoured or **rewarded**), and he who humbles himself (keeps a modest opinion of himself and behaves accordingly) will be exalted (**elevated in rank**).

Romans 6:22

But now since you have been set free from sin and have become the slaves of God, you have your present **reward** in holiness and its end is eternal life.

1 Corinthians 3:15

But if any person's work is burned up [under the test], he will suffer the loss [of it all, losing his **reward**], though he himself will be saved, but only as [one who has passed] through fire.

1 Corinthians 9:18

What then is the [actual] **reward** that I get? Just this: that in my preaching the good news (the Gospel), I may offer it [absolutely] free of expense [to anybody], not taking advantage of my rights and privileges [as a preacher] of the Gospel.

Ephesians 6:8

Knowing that for whatever good anyone does, he will receive his **reward** from the Lord, whether he is slave or free.

Colossians 3:24

Knowing [with all certainty] that it is from the Lord [and not from men] that you will receive the inheritance which is your [real] **reward**. [The One Whom] you are actually serving [is] the Lord Christ (the Messiah).

1 Thessalonians 1:10

And [how you] look forward to and await the coming of His Son from heaven, Whom He raised from the dead—Jesus, Who personally rescues and delivers us out of and from the wrath

[bringing punishment] which is coming [upon the impenitent] and draws us to Himself [investing us with all the privileges and **rewards** of the new life in Christ, the Messiah].

2 Timothy 2:10

Therefore I [am ready to] persevere and stand my ground with patience and endure everything for the sake of the elect [God's chosen], so that they too may obtain [the] salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with [the **reward** of] eternal glory.

Hebrews 10:35

Do not, therefore, fling away your fearless confidence, for it carries a great and glorious compensation of reward.

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please and be satisfactory to Him. For

whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the **rewarder** of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him [out].

Hebrews 11:26

He considered the contempt and abuse and shame [borne for] the Christ (the Messiah Who was to come) to be greater wealth than all the treasures of Egypt, for he looked forward and away to the **reward** (recompense).

2 Peter 2:13

Being destined to receive [punishment as] the **reward** of [their] unrighteousness [suffering wrong as the hire for their wrongdoing]. They count it a delight to revel in the daytime [living luxuriously and delicately]. They are blots and blemishes, revelling in their deceptions and carousing together [even] as they feast with you.

2 Peter 2:15

Forsaking the straight road they have gone astray; they have followed the way of Balaam [the son] of Beor, who loved the **reward** of wickedness.

James 1:25

But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man **shall be blessed (rewarded) in his deed. James got just about everything right! 'Every blessing to you, James!'**

26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

2 John 1:8

Look to yourselves (take care) that you may not lose (throw away or destroy) all that we and you have laboured for, but that you may [persevere until you] win and receive back a perfect reward [in full].

Revelation about 'Rewards'.

Revelation 11:18

And the heathen (the nations) raged, but Your wrath (retribution, indignation) came, the time when the dead will be judged and **Your servants the prophets and saints rewarded—and those who revere (fear) Your name, both low and**



high and small and great—and [the time] for destroying the corrupters of the earth.

Revelation 22:12

Behold, I am coming soon, and I shall bring My wages and **rewards with Me**, to repay and render to each one just what his own actions and his own work merit.

Praise the Lord. You have eternal Life through Jesus Christ, and it is not too late for some of you to receive your

eternal Rewards! Many of you already have them, as King Hezekiah said:

Let's close with this wonderful promise! Praise God.

'Their works do follow them!'

Revelation 14:13

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me,

Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord **from henceforth:** (after Jesus' Resurrection!) Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. 13 Then I heard [the distinct words of] a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, '[a] Blessed (happy, prosperous, to be admired) are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!" "Yes, [blessed indeed]," says the Spirit, "so

that they may rest and have relief from their labors, for their deeds do follow them." (AMP)

God bless you wonderful brethren! Enjoy the Salvation of God and enjoy the Rewards that you have by faith!

We love you!

Jerry for the WCF TEAM.



AND HE SHEWED ME A PURE RIVER OF WATER OF LIFE, CLEAR AS CRYSTAL, PROCEEDING OUT OF THE THRONE OF GOD AND OF THE LAMB.

2 IN THE MIDST OF THE STREET OF IT, AND ON EITHER SIDE OF THE RIVER, WAS THERE THE TREE OF LIFE, WHICH BARE TWELVE MANNER OF FRUITS, AND YIELDED HER FRUIT EVERY MONTH: AND THE LEAVES OF THE TREE WERE FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS.

3 AND THERE SHALL BE NO MORE CURSE: BUT THE THRONE OF GOD AND OF THE LAMB SHALL BE IN IT; AND HIS SERVANTS SHALL SERVE HIM:

4 AND THEY SHALL SEE HIS FACE; AND HIS NAME SHALL BE IN THEIR FOREHEADS.

5 AND THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT THERE; AND THEY NEED NO CANDLE, NEITHER LIGHT OF THE SUN; FOR THE LORD GOD GIVETH THEM LIGHT: AND THEY SHALL REIGN FOR EVER AND EVER.

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