

**B.O.S.S. Study Guide**  
**“The Coming Ages”**  
Week of February 1, 2010

Take a few minutes to review the message outline from January 24. In that study we took a look at the time referred to by Jesus as the time of “The Great Tribulation”. During this BOSS study we want to compare and contrast the judgment of God poured out on the world during the tribulation, the judgment at “The Great White Throne” and the judgment of Christians as they give an account before Christ.

**From the outline from Sunday January 24, 2010 - what are some of the different names used in the Bible for the Tribulation?**

We also looked at the “purpose” of Tribulation and found that one of the primary purposes is to bring judgment on mankind alive at the time.

The Bible also tells us that God has reserved another time of personal judgment in Revelation 20. **Take a minute and read 20:11-14.**

This time is referred to as “The Great White Throne Judgment”. This time is marked by the resurrection of the dead. This great crowd is individually judged based upon the review of two books. **What are they?**

The book of deeds seems to be what they are judged by - The book of life seems to be what they are sentenced by. The book of deeds reveals that they have sinned and fallen short Romans 3:23 - the book of Life reveals that they have never trusted Jesus as their savior Romans 6:23.

However, as we will see in future studies, New Testament believers have already been resurrected and have joined Jesus in heaven either through death or rapture.

In the remainder of this study we want to examine the scriptures which teach us about the time of judgment of New Testament Believers.

**Turn to 2 Corinthians 5:8-10.** It is clear that Paul is talking to believers who find that being away from the body is to be present with the Lord. Because of that, it is the believer’s goal to please the Lord in whatever state they are in.

**The reason for this, Paul says, is we must all do what in verse 10?**

Several things are worth noting:

1. Because they are present with the Lord, the judgment anticipated does not determine their eternal destiny. That is not in question.

2. The judgment seat is not called The White Throne - it is called the “bema” (the seat where athletes received the awards for their competition). See Romans 14:10
3. The awards are given based upon the value; “good” (verse 10) or “bad”- (not evil or sinful, but of “no eternal value).

This is probably Paul’s point in 1 Corinthians 3:12-15 where the judgment will reveal and reward the quality of ones service for the Lord. Ones works may burn up for they are of no eternal value and their loss will be entering into eternity without receiving reward.

**What kind of reward might he be talking about?**

**Read the following passages and answer these 2 questions:**

**What is the reward? Who receives it?**

1 Corinthians 9:25-

Revelation 2:1-

1 Peter 5:2-4 –

2 Timothy 4:8 –

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 –

James 1:12 –

The season of accountability before the Lord is the privilege of all believers. It is not a determination of destiny or status. It is an assessment of the quality and character ones service followed with appropriate reward.

**Take a minute and compare and contrast “The Great White Throne” and “The Bema Seat” judgments of mankind.**

**How should we then live?**

**Praise and Prayer Time**