

WHAT GETS REWARDED?

Series: "EVERY MOMENT MATTERS", Part 2 of 3

Sunday, February 20, 2022 at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Text: Selected Texts that speak to the issue of rewards

Big Idea: The knowledge that each of us will give an account of himself or herself to God means that every moment matters.

The Cardinal Rule of Behavioral Change: "What gets rewarded, gets repeated. What gets punished, gets avoided."

The Savior Question.

The Stewardship Question.

Luke 14:10-11, "But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Luke 14:12, "Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid."

Luke 14:13-14, "But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Luke 10:35, "The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will **reimburse** you for any extra expense you may have.'"

Mark 9:41, "I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his **reward**."

Luke 6:23a, "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your **reward** in heaven."

I. Persecution for Christ.

Matthew 5:11-12a, ““Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven.”

II. Sacrifices made for Christ.

Matthew 19:29, “And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.”

III. Secret prayer and fasting.

Matthew 6:6, “But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

Matthew 6:17-18, “But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

IV. Loving your enemies.

Luke 6:35, “But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.”

V. Generosity.

Matthew 6:3-4, “But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

1 Timothy 6:18-19, “Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a

firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

VI. Giving a good day’s work for your employer.

Colossians 3:23-25, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.²⁵ Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.”

Ephesians 6:7-8a, “Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men,⁸ because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does.”

VII. Meeting practical needs in the name of Christ.

Mark 9:41, “I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward.”

VIII. Seeking God.

Hebrews 11:6, “And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.” {NASV}

Luke 17:10, “So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”

Hebrews 11:6b, “He is a **rewarder** of those who seek Him.” {NASV}