

## A Rewarding Life, Lesson 3, April 12, 2020

When we stand before God, we will not be judged by the code of morality we have written for ourselves but by God's perfect law. **II Tim. 2:5, I Cor. 9:24**

- We looked at last time in our study of rewards a diagram of our eternity:

  
Belief=Eternal Destination      Behavior=Eternal Compensation

- The Bible teaches plainly that even the smallest choice in the dash can result in a corresponding consequence on the line of astounding proportions.

### **1. We concluded last time by looking at a particular Greek word used in the N.T. to describe God's rewards policy.**

- "Apodidomai" = **"you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just"**
- Something that you do for someone who can't pay you back, God will reimburse you in eternity.
- **Mk. 9:31** Remember, God's reimbursement policy is very generous. (1 mina and makes 10 = 10 cities as reimbursement)
- Adding a second word --"Misthos" = **Lk. 6:23, Mt. 20:8** = "wages"
- Wage = Something you earn resulting from something you do.
- Remember, no deed done for God will pass by overlooked or unrewarded: **Matt. 6:6**

### **2. So, what other things does God promise to reward in eternity?**

#### **What things fall under God's reimbursement policy?**

- First of all, there is no exhaustive list of things God rewards.
- A quick observation of Scripture reveals that in general something that you do for someone that meets a need or something that otherwise honors God are things God will reward.

**There are at least 7 categories of things** that we can glean from the teachings of New Testament writers that God will reward.

1. God will reward you for seeking Him through spiritual acts such as fasting and prayer. **Mt. 6:6**
2. God will reward you for self-denial in His service. **Mt. 16:25-27**
3. God will reward you for hard work at your job or occupation and submitting to your employer. **Eph. 6:6-8**
4. God will reward you for ministering to the needs of the Saints. **Mk. 9:41**
5. God will reward you for suffering for His name and reputation. **Lk. 6:22-23**
6. God will reward you for sacrifices you make for Him. **Lk. 6:35**
  - According to **Mt. 19:29**, those who sacrifice to follow Him will be rewarded 100-fold!!
7. God will reward you for sharing your time, talent, and treasure to further His kingdom. **Mt. 6:3-4; I Tim. 6:18-19.**

### **3. Does this teaching startle you or overwhelm you in any way?**

- You may be like me, a little reluctant to believe what you're hearing.
- After all, I don't feel like I deserve any reward---He died for me; the least I can do is serve Him.
- Isn't it our duty and privilege to serve Him not expecting anything in return since He has already done so much? **Lk. 17:10**
- At the same time, don't begrudge God for His generosity!!!
- God's plan to reward, like His provision to save, is a display of His amazing grace!

→God will pay you wages for the things you do for Him here—

→God will reimburse you for the things you pay out for Him here.

I'll use a very common verse to all of us to drive this point home **Heb. 11:6**