

Controlled by Love

II Corinthians 5:10 For **we must all appear** before **the judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad. 11 Knowing therefore **the terror of the Lord, we persuade men**; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are **made manifest in your consciences**. 12 For **we commend not ourselves** again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our behalf, that ye may have somewhat to *answer* them which glory in appearance, and not in heart. 13 For whether we be beside ourselves, *it is* to God: or whether we be sober, *it is* for your cause. 14 For **the love of Christ constraineth us**; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: 15 And *that* he died for all, **that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again**. 16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more. 17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new

creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

- A central verse to this passage is **11** Knowing therefore **the terror of the Lord, we persuade men;** but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are **made manifest in your consciences.**
 - How often we have a flipant attitude about God, His Word, His work, His church
 - We seldom take Him seriously
 - We don't show Him the same respect we would show people that we work with
1. We must all appear before the judgment seat! He will reward us **10** For we must all appear before **the judgment seat of Christ;** that every one may receive the things *done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*
 - a. We all will stand before the Lord Jesus for an evaluation of our work

- b. He knows all about us and what we have done
 - i. Our motives will no longer be hidden
 - ii. Nothing has ever been hidden from Him
- c. We will not be judged for our sin
 - i. Ours sins were taken care of on the cross of Calvary
 - ii. Jesus took our sins and gave us His righteousness

II Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him *to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*
 - iii. Jesus redeemed us from the curse of the law

Galatians 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, *Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:*
 - iv. He bore our sins **I Peter 2:24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.
 - v. There is now no condemnation for those that are in Christ Jesus **Romans 8:1** *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.* **34** Who is he that condemneth? *It is Christ that died, yea rather,*

that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

vi. We have passed from death to life [John 5:24](#) Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

d. There is a great difference between the Great White Throne Judgment and the Judgment Seat of Christ [Revelation 20:11-15](#) And I saw a **great white throne**, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. [12](#) And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, **which is the book of life:** and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. [13](#) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. [14](#) And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. **This is the second death.** [15](#) **And whosoever was not found**

written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

e. The judgment seat is a rewards seat

2. We persuade men [11](#) **Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men;** but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are **made manifest in your consciences.**

a. If God judges His own people what will happen with the lost, those that reject Christ [I Peter 4:18](#)

b. The word terror does not mean, fright, dread or horror

i. The word refers to a person or thing that inspires fear or astonishment & amazement

ii. When speaking of God or Christ, the fear “of God” or the Lord meaning a deep and reverential sense of accountability to God or Christ

c. Paul attempted to persuade men.

i. He of course wanted to persuade them to believe in and follow Jesus

- ii. More than that in this passage he is talking about convincing them that he is truly who he says, a man of God living in integrity
- d. Paul argues that he has lived a transparent life before God and before them **11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men;** but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are **made manifest in your consciences.**
 - i. He knows that God knows what he has been doing and how he has been living. That he is who he says that he is
 - ii. He believes and trusts that they know that in their own consciences that he is a man of God and who he says that he is
 - iii. The question was would they listen to their own conscience or believe his critics
- e. Paul did not commend himself like those who criticized him **12 For we commend not ourselves** again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our behalf, that ye may have somewhat to *answer* **them which glory in appearance, and not in heart.** **13** For whether we be

beside ourselves, *it is* to God: or whether we be sober, ***it is for your cause.***

- i. Paul was worried about the church.
 1. They were divided. Some followed what Paul taught while others were standing against him
 2. Paul is defending himself for the cause, for them, not for himself
 3. Paul does not want to see them leave the faith, be messed up by these attacks
 4. Paul knows that if the critics can attack and destroy the pastor then it will destroy the church
- ii. Paul commending himself was of no value **10:18 For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.**
- iii. Really they should be glorying in Paul and commending him **12 For we commend not ourselves again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our behalf,** that ye may have somewhat to *answer* them which glory in appearance, and not in heart. **12:11 I am become a fool in glorying; ye have compelled me: for I ought to have been commended of you:** for in nothing am I behind the very chiefest apostles, though I be nothing.

iv. Paul could only boast in the Lord **II Corinthians 10:17**

But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

I Corinthians 9:16 For though I preach the gospel, **I have nothing to glory of:** for necessity is laid upon

me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

and in his weakness **II Corinthians 11:30** **If I must**

needs glory, I will glory of the things which

concern mine infirmities. **12:9-10** And he said unto

me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore **will I**

rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of

Christ may rest upon me. **10** Therefore I take pleasure

in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in

persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

f. Actually Paul's critics did glory in externals, appearance

and not in heart **12** For **we commend not ourselves**

again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our

behalf, that ye may have somewhat to *answer* **them**

which glory in appearance, and not in heart.

3. The love of Christ controls us **14 For the love of Christ constraineth us;** because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: **15 And that** he died for all, **that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.** **16** Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more. **17**
- Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- a. Paul loved Jesus because Paul knew that Jesus loved him. Paul couldn't get over the love of Jesus **14 For the love of Christ constraineth us;** because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:
- i. The love of Christ had become Paul's controlling factor
 - ii. Paul was greatly impacted that Jesus had died for all
 - iii. All were in the sins and dead, on their way to hell
 - iv. Jesus died for all. He paid their sin debt so that they could be saved
- b. Since He died for us those of us that have been born again and now live should not live for ourselves **15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not**

henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

- i. Being saved was never about something selfish
 - ii. Being saved was about living for the one that died for you
 - iii. Jesus gave us life and that life is to be lived for Him and His honor and glory
- c. Paul did not judge men and women by their outward appearance **16** **Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.**
- i. Paul wanted to see people saved
 - ii. He loved carrying the gospel
 - iii. He wasn't trying to get people to conform outwardly
 - iv. He did not choose who he would work with based on the flesh or outward appearance
 - v. Paul had known Christ on a physical, external basis and made the greatest mistake of his life, persecuting the church. That was over and would not be happening again
- d. Paul knew that the gospel made old men new **17**

Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature:

old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

- i. No matter who it was they could be saved
- ii. No matter what they had done or where they came from all the sin was done away with and everything was made new
- iii. This is not a paying for the sin and continuing on but a completely new person
- iv. This is not a reformation but a formation
- v. This person is a new creation