

1 Peter 1:17

Judging our works

- Here Peter is addressing those who call God “Father.” We know that those who have the privilege of calling God “Father” are those who the father has lavished His love upon (1 John 3:1) and has adopted as sons (Romans 8:15-16).
- No one is ever justified by works and every human being under the Law will be held accountable with their mouths closed before God.
- However, the believer who has been justified by God will not be judged according to their works as their merit for salvation or entrance to Heaven. The believer has been covered in the righteousness of Christ and their sins have been atoned and removed. Christ has a day reserved that He will judge the world in righteous and those who call God “Father” will be judged according to the perfect active obedience of Christ.
 - Romans 4:6-8 just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:⁷ “BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN, AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED.⁸ “BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT.”
 - Romans 8:1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
 - John 5:21-24 For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.²² For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,²³ so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.²⁴ “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.
 - John 3:18 He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the ^[a]only begotten Son of God.

The believer will not be judged for loss of salvation, but rather will be judged according to their works as a believer and recompensed accordingly.

- Romans 14:10-12 But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.¹¹ For it is written, “AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL ^[a]GIVE PRAISE TO GOD.”¹² So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.
- 2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for ^[a]his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.
- 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.¹¹ For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.¹² Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, ^[a]precious stones, wood, hay, straw,¹³ each man’s work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is *to be* revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test ^[b]the quality of each man’s work.¹⁴ If any man’s work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.¹⁵ If any man’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

- o **1 Corinthians 4:5** Therefore do not go on ^[a]passing judgment before ^[b]the time, *but wait* until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of *men's* hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

Conduct yourself in fear

Psalm 111:10 The ^[a]fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who ^[b]do *His commandments*; His praise endures forever.

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Psalm 33:8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

Psalm 86:11 Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name.

Psalm 128: 1 How blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, Who walks in His ways.

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 2:5 Then you will discern the fear of the LORD And discover the knowledge of God.

Proverbs 8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverted mouth, I hate.

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 23:17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, But *live* in the ^[a]fear of the LORD ^[b]always.

Job 28:28 "And to man He said, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; And to depart from evil is understanding.'"

The more we begin to understand who God is and the magnitude of His holiness, the more we would reverence and fear God. The more we reverse we fear and reverse God, the less we will sin.

- **Exodus 20:18-20** *All the people perceived the ^[a]thunder and the lightning flashes and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood at a distance. ¹⁹ Then they said to Moses, "Speak ^[b]to us yourself and we will listen; but let not God speak ^[c]to us, or we will die." ²⁰ Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order that the fear of Him may ^[d]remain with you, so that you may not sin."*

Stay on earth

The Greek words used for "stay on earth" mean exiles, sojourners, visiting residence. They are exiles and not in their true home. It is the words used in **Acts 13:17** to describe the Israelites living in Egypt and also in **Ezra 8:35** to describe Israel. This has a deeper context than just ethnic Israel as "spiritual Israel" is all those who believe in the promise in faith like Abraham (**Romans 9:6-8**)