



Look Ahead

February 15th, 2026

We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that *each one may receive* what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

2 Corinthians 5:10

Rewards are determined by our response to the opportunities (whether great or small) that are presented to us on earth.

Erwin Lutzer, *Your Eternal Reward*

The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded *ACCORDING TO* his own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

1 Corinthians 3:8

Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the

antichrist. Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be *rewarded fully*.

2 John 7-8

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 6:6

I press on toward *the goal to win the prize* for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12-14

I know many people – godly people – who feel uncomfortable even discussing this issue. They reason, I suppose, that even thinking about future rewards displays a wrong or lesser motivation. *We ought to work hard and stay pure and lay down our lives out of love for the Lord alone*, they think. I understand what they mean, but the Bible shows no such timidity. In fact, Scripture is *filled* with truth about rewards! And it doesn't blush to speak of them in the context of our motivations. Bottom line, God rewards his servants. He is pleased and delighted to do so, and I believe a careful study of Scripture reveals that he *wants* us to be motivated by considering those rewards.

David Jeremiah, *Until He Comes*

Although they cannot repay you, *you will be repaid* at the resurrection of the righteous.

Luke 14:13-14

But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then *your reward will be great*.

Luke 6:35

Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Matthew 6:20

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is *in store for me the crown of righteousness*, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, *will award to me on that day* -- and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

2 Timothy 4:6-8

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven.

Matthew 5:11-12

Christ wants us to be busy. And in order to energize us in the service of the King, he has put a system of rewards into place.

Erwin Lutzer, *Your Eternal Reward*

Most neuroscience studies have shown that dopamine alterations change the level of likeliness toward a reward, which is called hedonic impact. This is changed by *how hard the reward is worked for*.

Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who contends (*agonizomai*) in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. *I beat my body and make it my slave* so that after I have preached to others, I myself *will not be disqualified for the prize*.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25,27

I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and *straining* toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12-14