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REWARDS

Many are taught that if we do the right things God will let us into heaven, and if we do the wrong things we see a “do not enter” sign. Some are taught that God has a big stick and that he will beat you if you don’t live right. Both are fallacies. God does discipline his children, but he doesn’t beat us with a stick, because that is child abuse. Discipline comes when children don’t do what “Father” tells us to do, so in the real sense, we are disciplined by a loving Father for the choices we make when they are the wrong ones.

As for doing the right things, that sounds good, but they don’t give us eternal life. Eternal life comes through godly sorrow that works repentance unto salvation. So, why do the right things? Well, the scriptures tell us in I Corinthians 3:9-15 ***“For we are laborers together with God: ye are God’s husbandry (garden), ye are God’s building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation, gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay and stubble; every man’s work shall be made manifest (to be seen); for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try (test) every man’s work of what sort it is. If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so by fire.”***

What we do with our life for Jesus determines the reward. If we share the gospel with others because we love God ; if we give our tithes and offerings cheerfully because we love God; if we volunteer to do work in our local church because we love God, and if we do what He asks us to do, whatever the cost because we put Him first and love Him, then our works will survive the fire. If we don’t, everything done for self-gain will be burned in the fire and we will stand before God empty-handed.

How sad that day will be for those that thought they could earn their way to heaven to find out too late that it doesn’t work that way. If this is what you have done, then ask God to forgive you, and choose to do things the right way, which is God’s way.

Those that made the right choice and have their works remain will be rewarded for their faith. It will not be in vain.