

HELEN SANDERS  
1-19-2024  
RECOMPENSE

We know according to scripture that a Christian is not saved by their works, but they are rewarded by what they do after salvation. Matthew 16:27 says, ***“For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.”***

Works are defined as being either gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or stubble but they will all be tried by fire. In 1 Corinthians 3 Paul writes to the church at Corinth that came from a very worldly background. He speaks of Jesus being the foundation that everything is built upon in verse 11, then goes on to say in verses 12-15, ***“12 Now if any man build upon this foundation (Jesus, the foundation) gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man’s work shall be made manifest (openly show) for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. 14 If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”***

Everything we do will go through the fire and only the first three, gold, silver, and precious stones which represent our works, will remain. Our motives in serving Jesus will determine what happens when they are tested by fire. Did we do it out of a heart of love for the Lord, or selfish ambition? The fire will show us our motives.

These of course are eternal rewards. But what about here and now? There is a promise in Proverbs 12:31. It says, ***“Behold, the righteous (those in right standing with God) shall be recompensed (rewarded) in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.”***

God rewards obedience now and in the future. God rewards faithfulness now and in the future. God rewards us for living righteously, not only now, but in the future kingdom. Everything done for God is never in vain my friends. We do not do these things for rewards, but because we do them out of a heart of love, we will be rewarded. Stand strong and do not give up! It will be worth it when we see Jesus and hear, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”