

# THE DOCTRINE OF ETERNAL REWARDS

## JACOB

BIRTHRIGHT		BLESSING	
SOWING	REAPING	SOWING	REAPING
GENESIS 25:29-34	GENESIS 29:1-30:24	GENESIS 27:1-29	GENESIS 30:25-31:16
THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL			
JOSEPH	OTHER TRIBES	JUDAH	LEVI
RIGHT TO POSSESS	PRIVILEGE TO RULE	PRIVILEGE TO MINISTER	
GENESIS 48:1-5, 22	GENESIS 35:10-12	GENESIS 49:8-12	NUMBERS 3:5-13
DEUTERONOMY 21:15-17	EXODUS 6:1-8	2 SAMUEL 7:12-16	NUMBERS 18:20-24
1 CHRONICLES 5:1-2	JOSHUA 1:10-11	ISAIAH 9:6-7	EZEKIEL 44:9-14
FIRSTBORN SON	SONS	KINGS	PRIESTS

## THE BELIEVER

The doctrine of **eternal rewards** is a very significant theme found throughout all Scripture; but in the New Testament particularly it is a subject of utmost importance. And upon closer examination, one soon begins to recognize its indisputable connection with two other related truths—the reality of **suffering** and **sacrifice**.

The Lord Jesus personally taught on the topic of **rewards** in many of His discourses. (Matthew 6:1-4,19-21,33; 10:40-42; 11:20-24; 16:24-27; 19:27-30; 20:1-16; 25:14-30; Mark 9:33-37; 10:17-22,35-45; Luke 6:22-23; 12:31-40,41-48; 16:1-12; 19:11-27) In the vast majority of these instances, He specifically declared how that **suffering** and or **sacrifice** were two of the main factors in the determination of one's ultimate loss or gain of **rewards**.

The Apostle Peter dedicated his first epistle entirely to the theme of the Lord's **sufferings**. (1 Peter 1:10-11; 2:18-25; 3:13-18; 4:1-4,12-19; 5:1,8-11) And it was he who said of his beloved brother Paul that in all of his epistles, he too spoke of the **longsuffering** of the Lord as being the very essence of salvation itself. (2 Peter 3:14-16) In fact, every New Testament author had something to say about this subject as well, because it is impossible to talk about the gospel of Christ and its implications to people's lives without ever mentioning His **suffering** and **sacrifice**.

Many people quote 1 Corinthians 2:9 out of context while insisting that it is impossible for us to know anything about our future. Now it is true that we cannot naturally comprehend all of the things which God has prepared for us as Christians in eternity. However, this passage actually teaches that the Lord desires for us to know as much as we are capable of learning from His Spirit. And as Paul himself said, such a topic as this is indeed very deep! (1 Corinthians 2:10-16). Here are a few examples of what we can and should know about God's divine standard for determining our **rewards**:

### SACRIFICING THROUGH GIVING

### SUFFERING THROUGH SERVING

1. **All of us as Christians have a responsibility to serve the Lord.** (John 4:34-38; Acts 26:19-20; Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 7:35; 16:15-16; Gal. 6:6-9; Eph. 2:10; Phil. 1:6; 2:12-13; Col. 4:17; 2 Thess. 3:13; 1 Tim. 5:24-25; Titus 2:11-15; 3:1,8,14; Heb. 12:1-5,28-29; James 1:2-4; 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:5-7; Rev. 5:8-10; 14:13)
2. **We also have a responsibility to give to the Lord as well.** (Mark 14:1-9; Phil. 4:18-19; 1 Sam. 15:22; Matt. 23:23; Micah 6:6-8; Malachi 3:8-11; 2 Cor. 8:1-9; 9:7; Heb. 13:15-16; Matt. 6:21; 2 Sam. 24:16-25)
3. **Each and every one of us will stand before the Lord one day in order to give an account as to how faithful we have been.** (Matt. 12:34-37; Heb. 6:1-3; 1 Cor. 3:8-15; 4:1-5; 9:15-27; Rom. 14:8-12; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; Jude 24)
4. **The Lord will reward us according to our faithfulness.** (Rom. 8:16-18; Phil. 3:7-16; Col. 1:21-24; 1 Thess. 2:1-2,14-16; 2 Thess. 1:3-12; 1 Tim. 4:9-10; 2 Tim. 1:12; 2:1-12; 3:10-12)
5. **These rewards can be gained, but they can also be lost as well.** (Matt. 19:27-30; Acts 5:1-11; 1 Cor. 4:8; 9:15-27; 15:10,58; 2 Cor. 6:1; Gal. 4:10-11; Phil. 4:10-17; Col. 3:23-25; 1 Thess. 3:1-5; 1 Tim. 6:17-19; 2 Tim. 1:16-18; 4:7-8,14-15; Philemon 14; Heb. 10:35-36; 11:35; 12:15-16; 2 John 8; Rev. 2:17,26-28; 3:21; 20:4-6)

### POSSESSIONS

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