The Encouraging Message of Judgment

Charles Stanley

I. Introduction.

A. Text: II Corinthians 5.

B. There will only be encouragement in the judgment of the believer.

II. Who the judge is gives encouragement to the believer.

A. Christ is the judge. (Romans 14:9)

B. God the Father has chosen to give all judgment unto His Son who is the Savior of the world. (John 5:22)

C. Jesus is the one who loves us unconditionally.

III. The judgment will be fair and accurate—Jesus is perfectly fair.

A. He is accurate because He is omniscient.

B. He will judge us according to the light we have received and understood.

IV. The purpose of the judgment is evaluation and reward.

A. God will reward us with responsibility in heaven to serve God and an increased capacity to glorify God. (Revelation 4)

B. The implication of the judgment is that we will be made aware of our personal significance.

C. God made us a person of worth through the cross.

Application questions:

1. How can it be said that judgment is encouraging for believers?

2. How would you respond to someone who says Jesus’ omniscience is a reason to fear the judgment?

3. Why is more responsibility in heaven to serve God something for which to look forward? Explain.