

## **TITLE: THE LORD WILL RECKON WITH US WHEN HE COMES**

**Text: Mt 25:19** *"After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.*

**Introduction:** No one likes to think about judgement, but there is a day in all our futures when we will stand before the judgement seat of Christ to give account for our lives. Paul makes this very clear in **2Co 5:9 & 10**. He said

*"Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."*

Paul makes it unmistakably clear that every person will stand before Jesus on that Day and give account for his or her life. This should change our attitude dramatically when we live with the awareness that one day we will stand before the Lord Jesus Christ 'eyeball to eyeball' and answer for how responsible or irresponsibly we lived our lives. There will be no lying on that day, because every lie and excuse will evaporate in the light of His glorious presence.

For this reason, we all need to do our best to live our lives with the thought that one day we will answer for what we do. So we need to make the most of every minute, hour and day. We need to walk in love to the best of our ability, use the gifts and talents God has given you and strive to obediently and successfully fulfil every task the Lord has given to you.

In **Matthew 25**, Jesus taught a parable to let us know that a day of reckoning is coming for all of us. After distributing measurements of money to three different servants, the employer left on a long journey. When he came back, he wanted to see what his three servants had done with the money he had given them, so he called them in for a review.

The King James Version of verse of 19 says,

*"After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them."* Just as this lord returned in the parable, Jesus is coming back again one day not so far away. Just as this lord reckoned with his servants, Jesus will reckon with us when He returns. Therefore, we need to know what the Bible means when it says Jesus will "reckon" with us.

The word "reckon" in Greek phraseology is a commercial term that means to compare accounts. It is also a bookkeeping phrase that means to look at the

records, to study the facts, to compare accounts, or to settle an account. This phrase would normally be used to portray an accountant who is putting together a profit-and-loss statement for his boss. He isn't just skimming the surface; he is digging deep to analyse the real financial status of the corporation.

It's very significant that Jesus used this word because it tells us that the Lord is not going to be taking a shallow look at what we have done for Him in Kingdom Advancement. Neither will He just accept our excuses or word for it, rather He will search and dig until He obtains a real picture of what we did or didn't do for Him and for the advancement of His Kingdom.

In the end, Jesus 'examination of the facts will result in a very thorough investigation as He looks at what we have done and then compares it to what He asked us to do in Matthew

*Mt 28:19 to "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

Now the only other place this Greek phrase is used in the New Testament is in **Matthew 18:23 & 24**, where it is used twice in one parable. It says,

*"Therefore is the Kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him then thousand talents."*

As in **Matthew 25**, this parable pictures a king – a superior power – who calls his servants in for a review of what they have or haven't done. By thoroughly studying and examining the facts, he obtains a real picture of their situation. Armed with this knowledge, the king calls his servants to stand before him and give account for what they have done.

In using these Greek words, the Holy Spirit makes it hard for us to miss the point that a day is coming in the future when we are going to stand before Jesus to answer for our lives. On that day, we will look into His eyes and hear Him say, "Did you do what I asked you to do?"

**Revelation 20:12**, tells us that there are different kinds of books in Heaven. One of them is called the Book of Life, but this scripture also says there are "books" that will be opened:

*Re 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.*

These books contain records of what we did and didn't do on this earth. These records must be very important, for they are saved in the archives of Heaven itself. And in each of our futures, there will come a day of reckoning when those books are opened. On that day, the Lord Jesus will look over the "profit-and-loss statement" for our lives, comparing what we did to what we were actually supposed to do.

This judgement will not be in regard to our salvation, if you are at the judgement seat of Christ, you are already eternally saved. However, that day will determine our reward. Those who fulfilled the assignment Jesus gave them will receive a reward. **Romans 2:6** says, Jesus

*"...will render to every man according to his deeds:"*

And **1Co 3:13 & 14** Paul says,

*"each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.*

Those who were not obedient will still be saved, but they will have no reward to show for their lives. **1Co 3:15** If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."

**Matthew 25:19** could be interpreted:

*"And when the lord of those servants returned, he called them up for a review – intending to thoroughly look at all the facts, to examine all the accounts, to determine the real status of what they had and had not done, and to make them accountable to him for what he discovered."*

Soul winning endeavours is very serious, Jesus expects us to do something with the gifts, talents, and abilities and assignments that He has entrusted to us. Therefore, since we know that a day of reckoning awaits us, let's do everything we can to please Jesus by advancing His Kingdom. Let's live in the constant

awareness that one day we will stand before Him to answer for what we did in this life and for how many souls we brought into His Kingdom.

Let us put our whole heart into soul winning endeavours. Decide to step out in faith to use your gifts, talents, and abilities. Choose to put aside those fears that have kept you from a life of obedience; then move forward by faith to invite someone to Church. As long as you are doing everything you can to win souls and advance the Kingdom of God, and also to do whatever else God has asked you to do, you have no reason to fear that day when you stand before Him and give account for what you have done.

**Prayer Points for today:**

- Lord in Jesus Mighty name please help me live with the awareness that a day of reckoning is in my future
- Lord help me to make use of the gifts, talents, abilities, ideas, and assignments You entrusted to me
- Lord help me to be able to look into Your eyes with confidence on that day, so help me now to faithfully use the abilities you've given me to execute the task of Soul Winning
- Lord help me not to lose my rewards both now and forever

**Now ask the Lord for grace**

- Grace to use the gifts, talents, abilities, ideas, and assignments You entrusted to me
- Grace to be able to stand with confidence on that day
- Grace to faithfully use the abilities you've given me to execute the task of Soul Winning
- Grace to commit to Soul Winning endeavours
- Grace to be faithful in everything we do for the Lord's Kingdom

**Prophetic Declaration:**

I boldly acknowledge that a day of reckoning is coming in my future. On that day, I will give account for what I did or didn't do in this life. Therefore, I will use the gifts, talents, and abilities Jesus has given to me. I will faithfully execute every assignment He has asked me to do. I will do everything within my power in win souls to please Jesus in the way that I serve Him. I will make sure that my conscience is clear with God and with myself. I DECLARE THIS BY FAITH IN JESUS MIGHTY NAME!

**The Holy Communion:**

Pray for forgiveness of sins

I bless the bread and wine and whatever you have. I declare it holy as a symbol of the blood and flesh of Jesus Christ.

I pray that as you partake of this communion; your eyes will be open and you will be empowered to use the gifts, talents, and abilities entrusted to you wisely to win souls. I pray that you will not lose your rewards here and in eternity. I pray that God will give you spiritual understanding to know what you ought to do in this Prophetic season of revival in Jesus Mighty Name.

Give Jesus thanks!