

Book of Revelation, part 45

The Rapture Between Chapters 3 & 4 The Bema

- I.** The Bema: Bema Seat Judgment.
 1. Christians judged in this life not in the next (1 Cor. 11:32).
 2. Occurs after glorification (cf. 1 Tim. 6:16; 1 Jn. 3:2).
 3. Occurs before the formal entrance to the throne of God (1 Thes. 3:13).
 4. “Practices” are evaluated (2 Cor. 5:10).
 5. “Motives” are evaluated (Rom. 14:10).
 6. Only Christ can judge motives (1 Cor. 4:5).
- II.** The type of work is evaluated at the Bema (1 Cor. 3:11-15).
 1. Only those works built upon the foundation of Jesus Christ will be evaluated (1 Cor. 11-12).
 - 1) ‘Religious’ works.
 - 2) Sincere works.
 2. The term “try” (1 Cor. 3:13).
 - 1) Fire assay.
 - 2) Testing for what is of value.
 - 3) No penalties mentioned.
 - 4) Everyone there will be praised by God (1 Cor. 4:5).
 3. Nonflammable or flammable?
 - 1) Most likely: each individual sees only his own works—vision.
 - 2) Most likely:
 - Gold: pure motive, by the Holy Spirit, in concert with New Testament grace.
 - Silver: pure motive, by the Holy Spirit.
 - Precious stones: pure motive, living up to limited knowledge.
 - Wood, hay, straw—different levels of performance, sincerely done, in own strength: burn at different rates.
 4. Reward (1 Cor. 3:14; 4:5).
- III.** The Day of Christ.
 1. A time of “assaying” Christians’ works (Phil. 1:10).
 - 1) Related to the Gospel for maturing (Phil. 1:7; Rom. 15:25).
 - 2) Spotless and blameless.
 2. A time when ‘higher level’ of life will be evaluated (Phil 2:14-16).