

Section Two: The Kingdom of God on Earth (Present)

Category C: Bema – Kingdom Intelligence Report #4

Topic: The Standard

There is a standard for the Bema of which we must be aware, if we expect our evaluation to be a positive one. It differs from the criteria in the same way that sincerity differs from being sincerely wrong. In addition, unlike the criteria for the Judgment Seat of Christ, the standard will be applied uniformly, across the board, without any consideration whatsoever for our individual differences as Christians. The Apostle Paul presents this standard to us in a manner that is so clear-cut and unequivocal; it leaves absolutely no room for doubt or debate, as revealed in 1 Corinthians 3:10-13 –

“According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it. For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man’s work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man’s work.”

Paul compares our service for the Lord to the building of a house. With that analogy in mind, he then warns us of the two factors in our evaluation which will be non-negotiable: **foundation and quality**. In regard to the foundation, Paul reminds us in v11, that there always has been and always will be, one sole foundation for Christian service that is acceptable in the sight of our Savior – His divine Person, coupled with His redemptive work. Jesus’ death and resurrection is foundational to the building of Christ’s Church; and this building project is the very objective for the Church Age. Service that is rendered under the name of Christianity which builds upon this foundation will be recognized by our Lord as gold, silver, precious stones. Christian service which builds on any other foundation will be viewed as wood, hay and straw. No wonder that Paul’s rather simplistic admonition regarding the foundation is “be careful how you build on it.”

Once that determination is made, the additional contributing factor will be that of quality. How ironic that it won’t be quantity, but quality. But isn’t that what matters in the building of any house? As a homeowner, what is more important than a quality built home, resting on a rock solid, well-laid foundation? These two non-negotiable issues of foundation and quality have an enormous bearing upon the contemporary falsehood of Dominion Theology, currently plaguing the Christian faith, and hindering the advancement of the cause of Christ. Why? The strategies employed by Dominionist heretics emphasize political activism at the expense of evangelism. Their goal is theocratic nation building, rather than the planting of Christ-centered churches. It has prompted them to form alliances with entities which do not share their Biblical values, out of a Machiavellian desire to justify their unbiblical agenda. They have blatantly violated Paul’s admonition of “being careful how you build,” and have foolishly placed themselves on a path of end-time apostasy. Only one word can be offered to them in response: “Repent!”