



---

## Foundations Leaders' Guide

### Lesson 8 – Eternal Judgment

---

The first four Foundational topics we have studied are focused on our present life here on earth. Like our last topic, the resurrection of the dead, our final topic, **eternal judgment**, extends outside the scope of time and life on earth and instead turns the focus to **eternity**.

God is described in the bible as a judge who does not desire to condemn but delights in mercy:  
📖 *Isaiah 33.22, James 4.12, Hebrews 12.22-24, Ezekiel 18.30-32, 2 Peter 3.9*

At the throne of God's eternal judgment, the **only way** we can receive eternal life from God's judgment is through faith in Jesus Christ. Without faith in Christ, we will be condemned:  
📖 *John 3.16-21, Revelation 20.11-15*

Though true Christians can have confidence they will not be condemned, we will all appear before God's throne to be judged based on our deeds during our earthly lives:  
📖 *Romans 8.1, 2 Corinthians 5.9-10, 1 Corinthians 3.11-15*

Jesus also teaches that we will be judged based on **how well we have managed** what God has given us:  
📖 *Matthew 25.14-30, Luke 19.11-27*

In this parable, the departing master invests his money with 3 servants. Each servant is given a different amount, **according to his ability**. We see that the first two servants earn a profit for their master, and though they started and finished with different amounts of money, are considered **equally faithful** with what they have been given and are **equally rewarded** (except for the talent taken from servant #3). The third servant, on the other hand, earns nothing, is considered **wicked** for his faithlessness, and is punished accordingly.

Though we are saved through faith in Christ alone, not by deeds, we also know that good deeds will always be the result of a true, saving faith:  
📖 *James 2.14-17*