



MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MUSIC: BEN WONG

DATE: AUGUST 1, 2021

The Positive Influence of Final Judgment
2 Timothy 4:1-5

God's Word must remain our focus in ministry (1-2).

1. Our drive to remain focused comes from the reality of final judgment & eternity (1).

2 Tim. 4:1 I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:

A few thoughts on why final judgment is such a motivator:

• **The basis of final judgment: our love, pleasure & faithfulness to Jesus.**

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

2 Cor. 5:9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

2 Tim. 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

• **The nature of our rewards: significant roles on the New Earth.**

1 Cor. 6:2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? 3 Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life!

Rev. 2:26 The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations,

• **The negative side of final judgment: a sense of loss & shame.**

1 Cor. 3:15 If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

1 John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.

2. We must develop the skill to use God's Word according to current circumstances (2).

2 Tim. 4:2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

a) This makes sense in light of 3:16-17!

2 Tim. 3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

b) We must be committed to the task of "proclaiming the Word".

c) We must do so whether convenient or not – "be ready in season and out of season".

d) We must be able to convince people of its truthfulness – "reprove".

- e) We must be able to point out what's wrong – “rebuke”.
- f) We must be able to stimulate others to action – “exhort”.
- g) We must develop all these skills with determination & biblical content – “with complete patience and teaching”.

Without this focus false teaching will prevail (3-4).

2 Tim. 4:3 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

See 2 Timothy 2:14, 23; 1 Timothy 4:7; Titus 3:9.

To maintain this focus requires specific self-control (5).

2 Tim. 4:5 As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

1. This applies to Timothy in light of his personal weaknesses.
2. “You must be clear in your thinking!”
3. “Don’t let hardships get you down.”
4. “Keep engaging with those scary people who don’t know Jesus.”
5. “God’s grace will enable you to do all He has designed for you – just do it!”

Reflection & Discussion

1. What most intrigues you about your coming life on the New Earth? What questions do you have about your new life there?
2. How would you evaluate the influence that final judgment has had on you up to this time? What could you do to grow in your awareness and understanding of this future event? How could final judgment increase in its influence on your love, pleasure & faithfulness to Jesus?
3. Do you feel like God’s Word plays a central role in your life and ministry currently? Has your skill in handling the Word increased since you began following Jesus? Explain.
4. What steps could you take to make further progress in your skill with God’s Word? Please be specific.

SONGS

“King of Heaven” - Paul Baloche, Jason Ingram

“Forever Reign” - Jason David Ingram, Reuben Timothy Morgan

“O Praise The Name (Anástasis)” - Dean Ussher, Marty Sampson, and Benjamin Hastings

“What A Beautiful Name” - Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$19,621.51 *
WEEKLY NEED: \$35,272.00

YTD GIVING: \$915,265.40 *
YTD GENERAL NEED: \$1,022,888.00 *

** these amounts reflect the previous weeks giving and will be updated in next weeks notes*