

Speaker : Rev Timothy Ong

Title : Living By the Golden Standard

Text : 1 Corinthians 3: 10-15

“According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.

11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

13 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.

15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.”

Introduction :

Christ is chosen by God as the standard for Christian living

1. Unsurpassed Standard (1 Corinthians 3:11) - “No other foundation”

- Can't build on man's standard, church standard, social/moral standard of society.
- Must not compare one with another.
- Everything is vain without Christ. That is why we must be “born again.”
- Our faith and hope in God is in Christ.
1 Peter 1:18-23 Jesus is Supreme

(Philippians 2:6-11)

Man has set for himself gold as the monetary standard but God has set Jesus Christ as the unsurpassed standard for eternal life & living.

2. Imperishable Standard (1 Corinthians 3:13a) – “revealed by fire”

Christians are not born by works, but we are born to work.

“This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men” (Titus 3:8)

God has a given place and a will for each person. If we are “out of place” then no matter how good we feel, or how successful our work is, and how much people praise us then we will still be worthless. It amounts to zero in God’s sight.

“Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,
23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,
24 because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away,
25 But the word of the Lord endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.” (1 Peter 1:22-25)

Jesus said to the 7 churches in Revelation “I know thy works”

- To Ephesus (Revelation 2:2-3)
- To Laodicea (Revelation 3:15-17)

3. Universal Standard (1Corinthians 3:13b)

“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.”

“But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

11 For it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, Every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

12 So then each of us shall give account of himself to God” (Romans 14:10-12)

This applies not just to Christians only. It applies to all (Revelation 6:14-17)

“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Hebrews 10:31)

What are we to do with unsaved?

Conclusion:

Salvation is only in Jesus Christ, “none other name”.

Jesus is the only acceptable standard to measure our lives and works.

There is still an eternity to take care of.

Jesus’ words to the church in Laodicea in Revelation 3:18-22