

# **Sermon Summary "A Rewarded Life" (1 Corinthians 3:5–15)**

June 22, 2025

## **Introduction: Rewards Encourage People**

- Survey Data: Performance improves significantly when rewards are given (up to +44%)
- Effect of words of gratitude and praise (+88.8%)
- Believers are also promised "a life with rewards"

## **Review of the Previous Message**

- Problem in the Corinthian church: factions, jealousy, strife = "people of the flesh"
- They were spiritually immature, like infants

## **1) The Roles of Apollos and Paul: The Lord Gives the Reward**

- Servants = "deacon" / "waiter"
- Growth comes not from people, but from the Lord (vv.6–7)
- The source of spiritual growth is the work of the Lord
- Preachers are fellow workers for the Lord (vv.8–9)
- The Lord gives a reward according to each one's labor

## **Application:**

- Do not depend too much on charismatic preachers or YouTube pastors
- Trust not in people, but in God the Lord

## **2) Cautions for Receiving Rewards (vv.10–15)**

### **① Christ Alone Is the Only Foundation (vv.10–11)**

- Foundation = Jesus Christ alone
- Grace already given, completed (Aorist tense)

## ② Building Materials = Fruits of Life (vv.12–15)

- "Gold, silver, precious stones" = won't burn, valuable
- "Wood, hay, straw" = burns, worthless
- The "fire of the Lord" will test each one's work
- If the building remains, there is reward; if burned, there is loss (salvation is not lost)

### What is valuable?

- Fruit of the Spirit, faith, humility, obedient practice

### What is worthless?

- Hypocrisy, pride, loveless actions, faith for appearance

### Related Image:

- Parable of Jesus: House built on the rock vs. house built on the sand
- The one who hears and acts remains; the one who only hears collapses

### Conclusion: Let Us Live a Rewarded Life

### Two Response Points:

1. Stand firm on the foundation of Christ
  2. Examine what you are building on the foundation of Christ
- Let us aim to bear the fruit of the Spirit, act on the Word, and receive reward

### ★ Time of Response

- Meditate on the Word, and write your prayer or commitment in "My Response"
- On the foundation of Christ, let us build up what the Lord considers precious