



Fireproof Your Life for Eternity

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Aim of tonight's lesson: Verse by Verse study of 1 Corinthians 3:10-17 to insure that we fireproof our lives for eternity. We are the stuff that martyrs are made of. What will you present to the Lord on the "Day of the Lord."

- I. 1 Cor. 3:10-11 – vs. 9 – you are God's building – vs. 10 – by grace I laid a foundation as an expert builder. What is the foundation? The doctrinal foundation of Jesus Christ and him crucified (1 Cor. 2:2). Paul says I expertly laid Christ and others are building on the foundation. Who are the others? Apollos (3:5). Whoever works for God must be careful how they build. For no one can lay a foundation other than Jesus Christ. It is possible to lay a foundation other than Christ but one sure had better be careful. Why be careful?
- II. Vs. 12-13 – Paul says check the materials that you are building onto the foundation – temples in the ancient world were adorned with gold, silver, and costly stones. The frames of ordinary houses were built with wood, hay, and straw. Whether expensive stones or ordinary hay, the work will be tested. "The Day" will bring it to light – "The Day of the Lord" (1 Thess. 5:2-9) – the day of the second coming of Christ) 2 Thess. 2:2) – the test of God's justice and judgment – God's fire – the fire of God's judgment. God tests the quality of a Christian's work.
- III. Vs. 14 – Those Christians whose work stands the test of the fire will receive their reward (Matt. 25:14-30; Luke 19:11-27).
- IV. Vs. 15 – Those whose works are consumed by the fire will see themselves escape the flames (as if they were to jump out of the burning wooden structure they had built) will be saved alone, without any works of praise to present to Christ. Barely escaped and nothing to present Christ.
- V. Nothing to present Christ – a) must give an account of ourselves to God, b) motives not achievements, c) not saved by works by are rewarded for them, d) if we seek to perfect ourselves in the flesh, the credibility of the gospel will be smeared, e) only in the hot furnace of affliction do we let go of the cross, f) will lead not to talk but a demonstration of the Spirit's power, g) afflictions, trials, and tests are often God's blessings in disguise – crosses are ladders that lead us to a higher level of spirituality.

There are no triumphs without trials

We are the stuff martyrs are made of – live our lives so we have something to present to Christ at the Day of the Lord.