

Will What You Build Be Burned Up?

Here's an interesting scripture to think about:

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (ISV) – *As an expert builder using the grace that God gave me, I laid the foundation, and someone else is building on it. But each person must be careful how he builds on it. After all, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that is already laid, and that is Jesus the Messiah¹. **Whether a person builds on this foundation with gold, silver, expensive stones, wood, hay, or straw, the workmanship of each person will become evident, for the day of judgment² will show what it is, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's action. If what a person has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward³. If his work is burned up, he will suffer loss. However, he himself will be saved, but it will be like going through fire.***

This indicates that:

1. **Every one builds their lives on Jesus as their foundation** – He is the foundation of our entry into the Kingdom and he is the foundation's cornerstone for apostles to lay the remainder of the foundations. He must be our foundation, not religion.
2. **Not all rewards are offered to everyone** – All rewards are on offer. Some rewards are related to what we do on Earth in our natural bodies, and others could be nullified by what we are doing right now. This has nothing to do with sin.
3. **We can lose everything** – Our works will be evaluated on the Judgement Day of Believers and if the presence of God (his “fire”) doesn't weed out (“burn up”) some of them, they will become the basis for our rewards.
4. **Our works are based on what we believe** – Our theology and spiritual beliefs determine our works which will be assessed in Judgement Day, so we must have the right ones. The Kingdom is Heaven's focus, so that's the 'theology' we need if we are to do more than just 'scrape' into eternity when we are judged.

Some scary thoughts there, but well worth contemplating.

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1 – Or “Christ”

2 – The Gk. lacks “of judgment”

3 – Or “receive wages”