

*“For we must all appear before The Judgment Seat Of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” 2 Corinthians 5:10 KJV*



In the ancient Greek games, the judges would sit on the bema and determine the winners in the ancient Olympics who received victory wreaths (crowns). Only the winners were recognized with leaf crowns. In the Greek, “bema” refers to a raised platform from which judging or speaking was done. The context of today’s passage is one of judging; specifically, “the Judgment Seat (bema) of Christ.” All

believer’s deeds will be judged by Christ. *“We ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones (obedience), [or]wood, hay, stubble (disobedience); every man's work shall be made manifest: for the Day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved.”* It is not our souls that will be judged, but the deeds of our body while on earth after our repentance. At the end of his life Paul wrote, *“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that Day: and not to me only, but unto ALL THEM ALSO that love His appearing.”* Are you excitedly anticipating the return of Christ? Do you wake each day hoping, “Perhaps today!”? The Caesars would often wear and be sculpted with leaf crowns of victory. They were conquerors, but believers will receive crowns, because *“in all these things we are MORE THAN CONQUERORS through Him that Loved us.”* Our victory over sin and death is ours only through Christ!

The child of God will answer true,  
For all the things which they did do,  
The Judgment Seat of Jesus Christ,  
Will give reward for those done right. –CGP

The only punishment believers receive at the Bema Seat is the loss of the deeds done out of disobedience. The Fire of God will try our deeds and only our obedient deeds will stand that test! Job said, *“He knoweth the way that I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.* Gold can only be purified with fire. Faith is the gold of Heaven!

*“That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with Joy unspeakable and full of Glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.” 1 Peter 1:7-9 KJV*