

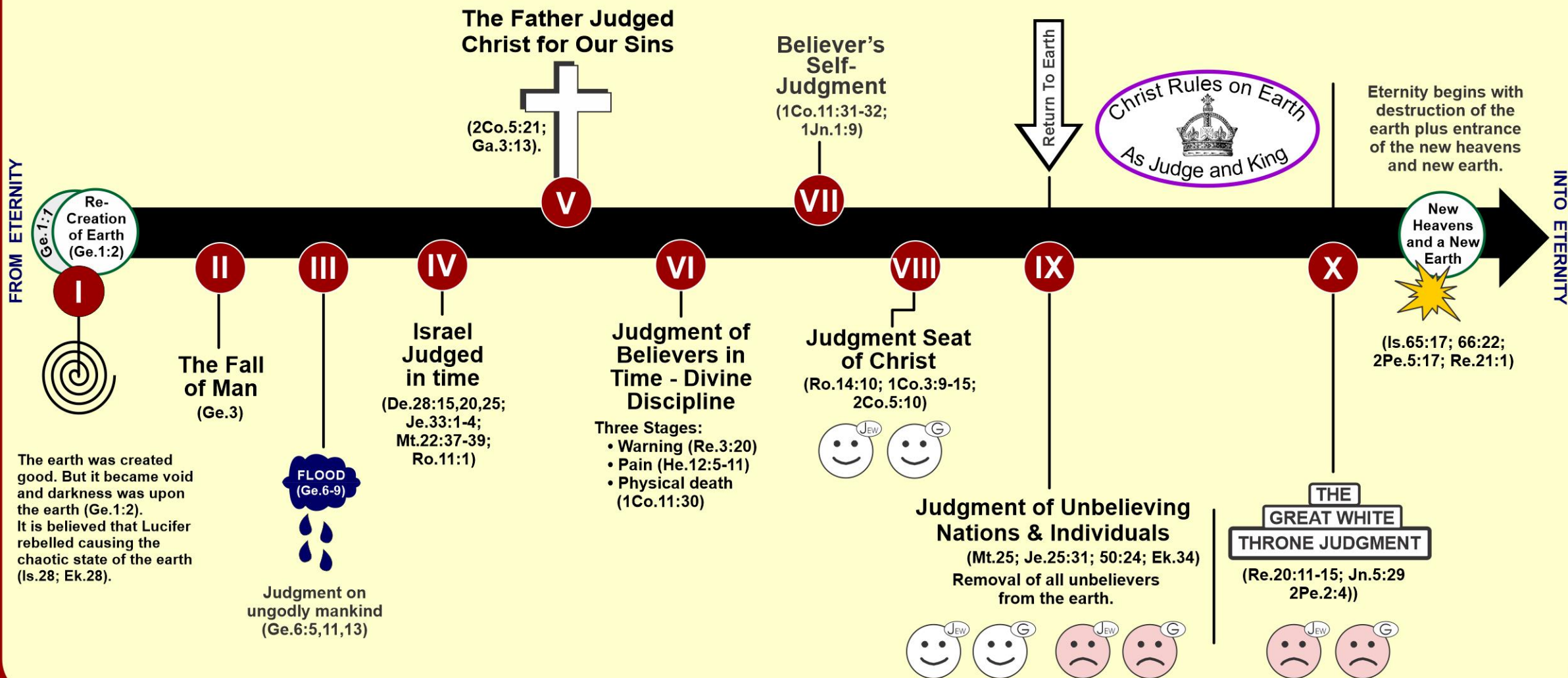
JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

When
JESUS **Calls**
YOUR NAME

Romans 14:10-12
1 Corinthians 3:10-15
2 Corinthians 5:10



10 JUDGMENTS OVERVIEW — PAST AND FUTURE



THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

THE BEMA



CITY OF SARDIS

The judgment seat or bema was a well known concept in ancient Rome.

Originally a step or a raised place mounted by steps, it was the official seat of a judge.

Pilate sat on a bema to judge Jesus. Paul was brought before Gallio who was sitting on a bema, the official judgment seat (Ac.18:12).

THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

THE BEMA

Pilate sat on a bema to judge Jesus. Paul was brought before Gallio who was sitting on a bema, the official judgment seat (Ac.18:12).

In the Roman judicial sphere bēma is used for the judgment seats of Pilate (Matthew 27:19; John 19:13), Herod (Acts 12:21), Gallio (Acts 18:12, 16f.), and Festus (Acts 25:6, 10, 17). These officials heard and judged important matters from a bēma.

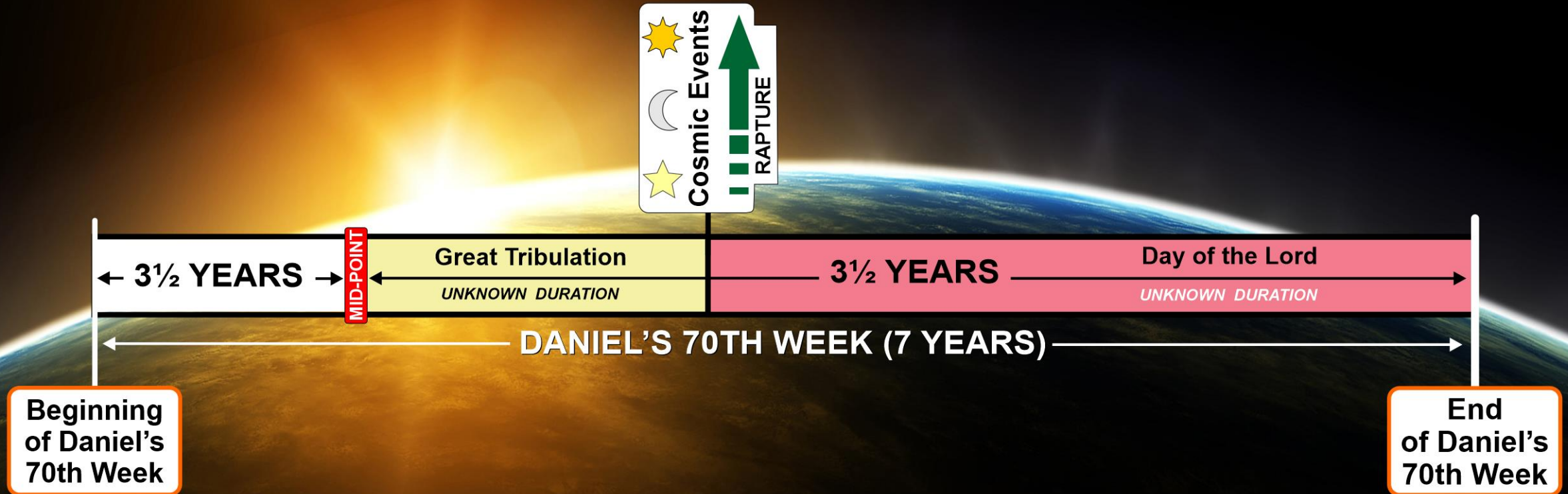


CITY OF CORINTH

BEMA SEAT: WHEN IN THE FUTURE WILL IT OCCUR?

OPTION 1 After the Rapture

OPTION 2 After Death



OPTION 1

After the Rapture

- 1 Peter 1:7, “tested by fire... at the revelation of Jesus Christ”
- 1 John 2:28, “when He appears... confidence... before Him at His coming”
- Revelation 22:12, “behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me”
- Matthew 16:27, “Son of Man will come... and then He will reward each”
- 1 Corinthians 4:5, “until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things... reveal the counsels of the hearts”

AFTER THE RAPTURE PASSAGES

**that the genuineness of your faith, being
much more precious than gold that
perishes, though it is tested by fire, may
be found to praise, honor, and glory at
the revelation of Jesus Christ**
apokalupsis

1 PETER 1:7



AFTER THE RAPTURE PASSAGES

And now, little children, abide in
Him, that when He appears, we
may have confidence and not be
ashamed before Him at His coming
parousia

1 JOHN 2:28



AFTER THE RAPTURE PASSAGES

And behold, I am coming quickly,
erchomai
and My reward is with Me, to give
to every one according to his work

REVELATION 22:12



AFTER THE RAPTURE PASSAGES

For the Son of Man will come in the
erchomai
glory of His Father with His angels,
and then He will reward each
according to his works Isaiah 62:11

MATTHEW 16:27



AFTER THE RAPTURE PASSAGES

Therefore judge nothing before the time,
until the Lord comes, who will both bring
erchomai
to light the hidden things of darkness and
reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then
each one's praise will come from God

1 CORINTHIANS 4:5



OPTION 2

After Death

- **Some believe too much is made of the PLACE, the TIMING, and the FORMALITY of rewards than should be.**
- **Some find it hard to imagine that those who have died and are in the presence of Jesus, are there without having had all their works evaluated.**
- **Each individual believer will be evaluated immediately and privately in a second of time by Jesus.**
- **The passages referring to Christ Coming with subsequent judgment to follow, are focused on LIVING believers at the time. These do not preclude that an evaluation has not already taken place for those who died prior to the rapture.**

THE FACT OF THE EVALUATION

¹⁰But 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. ¹¹For it is written: "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL CONFESS TO GOD." ¹²So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

ROMANS 14:10-12

THE FACT OF THE EVALUATION

- **Paul illustrates the FACT that every believer will have his life and deeds evaluated by Christ.**
- **Each person will give a word or report concerning himself to God (v.12, “give account of himself to God”).**
- **We will give an account for ourselves, not for anyone else.**
- **Everyone will accept the results without question.**
- **Paul does not indicate WHEN this evaluation will occur.**

ROMANS 14:10-12



THE MECHANICS OF THE EVALUATION

¹⁰According 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. ¹¹For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹²Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³each 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. ¹⁴If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:10-15

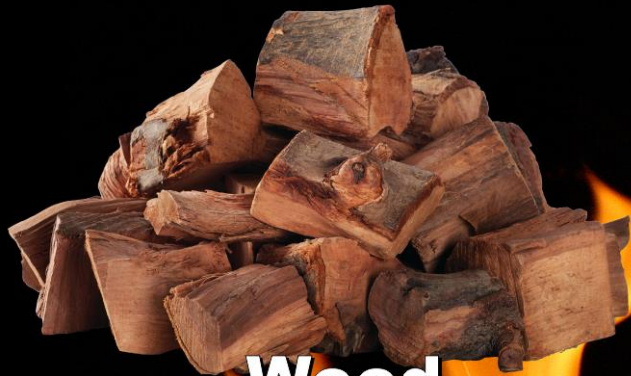
THE MECHANICS OF THE EVALUATION

- Here Paul deals with the **MECHANICS** of the evaluation.
- The issue is good vs. bad, light vs. darkness, pure vs. impure.
- Fire will reveal the **QUALITY** and show what is pure and impure.
- There is only one foundation and that is Christ (v.10-11).
- Only the things done for Christ will endure through the fire.
- We are rewarded by what endures the fire. Whatever is burned up is a loss of reward opportunity.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:10-15



THE QUALITY OF THE EVALUATION



Wood



Hay



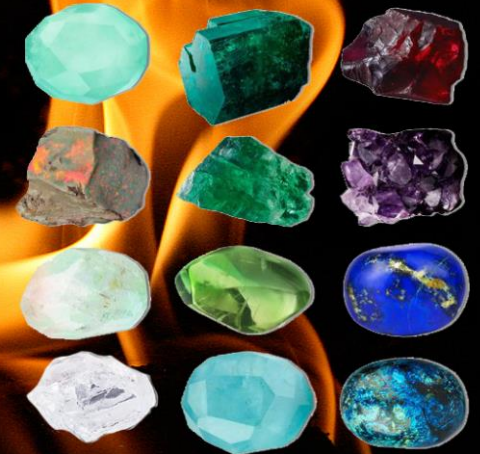
Straw



Gold



Silver



Precious Stones

1 CORINTHIANS 3:10-15

THE QUALITY OF THE EVALUATION

**For we must all appear before the
judgment seat of Christ, that each
bēma
one may receive the things done in
the body, according to what he has
done, whether good or bad.**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:10



CROWNS AND REWARDS



The Crown of Righteousness (2Tm.4:8)

EXPECT: Awarded to those who love His appearing

**Watcher's
Crown**

1



The Crown of Glory (1Pe.5:2-4)

DISCIPLE: Awarded for feeding and being an example to the flock

**Elder's
Crown**

2



The Crown of Rejoicing (1Th.2:19)

EVANGELIZE: Awarded to those who win the lost to Christ

**Soul-
winner's
Crown**

3



The Crown of Life (Ja.1:12; Rv.2:10)

ENDURE: Awarded to those who are faithful unto death

**Martyr's
Crown**

4



The Incorruptible Crown (1Co.9:25)

DISCIPLINE: Awarded for allowing Christ's life to work through you

**Victor's
Crown**

5

SIN AND FAILURE

- Because of the finished work of Christ the child of God shall not be judged for sin whether confessed or unconfessed (Jn.3:18; 5:24; 6:37; Ro.5:1; 8:1; 1Co.11:32).
- God's Word teaches that there are specific and serious consequences for sin or disobedience.
- The consequences are both temporal and eternal. These include:
 - 1** Loss of fellowship with the Lord (Ps.32:3-4)
 - 2** Divine discipline from the Lord (Ac.5; Hb.12:5-11; 1Co.11:28-30; 1Jn.5:16-17)
 - 3** Loss of power and production (Ga.3:1-5; 5:1-5)
 - 4** Loss of desire and motivation for service (Ga.5:16-17)
 - 5** Loss of physical health or even death (1Co.11:29-30; 1Jn.5:16-17)
 - 6** Loss of rewards at the Bema (1Co.3:13-15)



PURPOSE OF THE BEMA

1 Believers are to “give an account” of ourselves to God (Ro.14:10-12)

- 1** God is a holy God, and we must account for our lives
- 2** The Bema prepares the Bride for the Marriage Supper (Rv.19)
- 3** All human good is removed (1Co.3:12,15)



2 The Bema properly rewards faithfulness for serving Christ

- 1** All believers have been given the gift of eternal life, but not all believers will inherit the same rewards.
- 2** Reward is given for divine good (1Co.3:14)
- 3** The Bema prepares the believer for eternity

SORT OF WORK GOD EXPECTS

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

1 PROPER MEDIUM — POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Every believer in Christ has the Holy Spirit dwelling within them (Ep.4:30; 2Co.1:22; Rm.8:9).
- The issue is not what I do for the Lord. Rather the issue is what the Lord does through me. Jesus said, “without me ye can do nothing” (Jn.15:5; Zc.4:6).
- Not every believer is filled with the Holy Spirit (Ep.5:18; Ga.5:16,18; Rm.6:13,16; Lk.1:67; Rm.8:13).
- There is a lot of difference between doing things FOR Christ and allowing Christ to work THROUGH us.
- Self denial is the first law of discipleship. Jesus taught, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me” (Lk.9:23)

2 PRESCRIBED MANNER — POWER OF FAITH

- Every believer in Christ is to live their lives based on the faith principle. The Bible says, “...Without faith it is impossible to please God” (Hb.11:6).
- Faith is not based on our feelings, plans or purposes, but upon God’s Word (Rm.10:17, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing the word of God”)
- Paul taught, “For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2Co.5:7). Anything less is sin. “For whatsoever is not of faith is sin” (Rm.14:23)

3 PURE MOTIVE — POWER OF LOVE

- A true ministry for God is rooted in a true love for God. When asked about the greatest commandment Jesus said, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment” (Mt.22:37-38).
- What motivates you to serve God? Do you serve out of necessity or out of genuine love for the Lord? God knows the true “sort” of our conduct.

Some Will Earn Rewards and Some Will Suffer Loss

Result

- At the “catching away” (rapture) we will be resurrected, and the flesh is removed and we become like Christ (1Jn.3:2). So we will see sin differently than we do now. Sin will be repulsive to us.
- Joy will be the predominant emotion of life with the Lord. But sorrow will be present, at least for a time when our works are made manifest. The believer who experiences loss will at least for a period of time experience shame (2Jn.8).



Spiritual Facts

Serving size faith oz. (love ml)
Servings pure motive book

Amount Per Serving % IN*		
Wood	7g	31%
Hay	6g	20%
Stubble	5g	22%
Total Fat	0g	0%
Gold	1g	2%
Silver	3g	7%
Precious stones	4g	13%

*Percent daily value are based on a good dose of daily Bible intake.

GOD'S PROMISE OF REWARD

PRAYING AND FASTING

⁶But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. ... ¹⁸so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. (Mt.6:6,18)

BEING INSULTED FOR THE NAME OF CHRIST

²²Blessed are you when men hate you, And when they exclude you, And revile you, and cast out your name as evil, For the Son of Man's sake. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets. (Lk.6:22-23)

LOVING YOUR ENEMIES

But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward (Lk.6:35)

HOSPITALITY THAT CANNOT BE REPAID

¹²Then He also said to him who invited Him, "When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just." (Lk.14:12-14)