

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own under-
standing; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: Proverbs 15:3 “The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.”

Quote: The fear of God is an attitude of awe and adoration whereby the child of God guards and guides his thoughts, words and deeds by the Word of God for the glory of God.

What would you choose to change in your thoughts, words and deeds if you knew that they all were recorded? What if everything was to be played back and judged at the end of each day by someone to whom you were responsible and for whom you have great respect and admiration? To be sure, you would start out with an eye towards the accounting at day’s end. How long do you think that pattern would last before you started becoming careless or callused? Perhaps prior knowledge of the severity and the consistency of the consequences for failure would keep you on track. Perhaps fear of the potential impact that failure would have on your fellowship with this “judge” that you admire would ensure greater diligence in guarding your thoughts, words and deeds.

The Bible makes it clear that every thought, word and deed is known by the Judge of all the earth, and there is coming a day of reckoning.¹ Psalm 139:1-4 “O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; *You understand my thought afar off.* You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with *all my ways.* For there is not a *word* on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.” Jeremiah 17:10 “I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the *mind,* Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his *doings.*” Matthew 6:36 “But I say to you that for *every idle word* men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.”

Failure to flee from temptation and to exercise ourselves unto godliness leads to loss. We can profit from the illustration of this truth in the failure of Adam and Eve to guard their hearts.. Genesis three states that Eve took of the forbidden fruit and “also gave

to her husband with her, and he ate. *Then the eyes of both of them were opened,* and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife *hid* themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, ‘Where are you?’ So he said, ‘I heard Your voice in the garden, and *I was afraid* because I was naked; and I hid myself.’ And He said, ‘Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of *which I commanded you that you should not eat?*’ Then the man said, ‘*The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.*’ And the LORD God said to the woman, ‘What is this you have done?’ The woman said, ‘*The serpent deceived me, and I ate.*’” Both of

Giving an Account to God

them reaped the promised consequences of their choices. Listening to Satan’s lies and looking lustfully at that which God had forbidden led them to let down and disobey Him. The harvest was loss. They lost **purity** when they disobeyed God. They lost **priorities** when they sewed fig leaves together in a futile effort to cover their shame. They lost **peace** with God when they tried to “hide” from Him out of fear. They lost **personal fellowship** by blaming others, including God, for their own wrongdoing.

In trying to cover their sin and hide, Adam and Eve revealed an alarming ignorance of God. His questions were for their benefit and not for His. *God knew where they were, what they had done and how they learned about evil.* The same is certainly true of His knowledge about us. Often our reactions to sin are no better than theirs. We live in the presence of an all-knowing Judge to Whom we will give an account.² When we fail, in thought, word or deed, our attitude must be, “Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”³

¹ Eccl.11::9; 12:13-14; Romans 14:10; II Cor.5:10 ² Psalm 69:5 ³ Psalm 139:23-24