**The Servant’s Reward**

**1 Corinthians 3**

**Eternal Life is About Quality And Quantity**

“*And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth.*” (John 17:3, NLT)

**Unhealthy spiritual competition comes from the jealousy and the sinful nature**

“*Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn’t talk to you as I would to spiritual people. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in Christ. I had to feed you with milk, not with solid food, because you weren’t ready for anything stronger. And you still aren’t ready, for you are still controlled by your sinful nature. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn’t that prove you are controlled by your sinful nature? Aren’t you living like people of the world? When one of you says, “I am a follower of Paul,” and another says, “I follow Apollos,” aren’t you acting just like people of the world? After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God’s servants through whom you believed the Good News. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us.*” (1 Corinthians 3:1–5, NLT)

**True Servants believe they are servants**

“*…when you obey me you should say, ‘We are unworthy servants who have simply done our duty.’ ”*” (Luke 17:10, NLT)

**Two Farmers same field, same purpose**

“*I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. It’s not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What’s important is that God makes the seed grow. The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. For we are both God’s workers. And you are God’s field...*” (1 Corinthians 3:6–9, NLT)

**One Building**

“*…You are God’s building. Because of God’s grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person’s work has any value. If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss.*” (1 Corinthians 3:9–15, NLT)

**Only Fireproof Buildings Survive**

“*But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames.*” (1 Corinthians 3:15, NLT)

**Body Life in Christ is Our Reward**

“*After all, what gives us hope and joy, and what will be our proud reward and crown as we stand before our Lord Jesus when he returns? It is you!*” (1 Thessalonians 2:19, NLT)

**We are In This Together**

“*Don’t you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?*” (1 Corinthians 3:16, NLT)

**The Destructive will be Destroyed**

“*God will destroy anyone who destroys this temple. For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple. Stop deceiving yourselves. If you think you are wise by this world’s standards, you need to become a fool to be truly wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As the Scriptures say, “He traps the wise in the snare of their own cleverness.” And again, “The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise; he knows they are worthless.”*” (1 Corinthians 3:17–20, NLT)

**It’s All Ours!**

“*So don’t boast about following a particular human leader. For everything belongs to you—whether Paul or Apollos or Peter, or the world, or life and death, or the present and the future. Everything belongs to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.*” (1 Corinthians 3:21–23, NLT)

**Better Than We Can Imagine**

“*…“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.”*” (1 Corinthians 2:9, NLT)