



## Where and How Robert Morris

**Focus** We have a choice in where we spend eternity. All of us will face judgment one day, but some will be receiving rewards while others will be receiving punishment. God offers us the gift of grace so that we can spend eternity with Him. When we reject His invitation, we will spend an eternity in darkness instead. Choose Jesus.

**Fun** What musical instrument would you want to make a joyful noise with in heaven?

**Review** Key Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 3:10–15; Revelation 20:11–13

### 1. Belief and Behavior

We determine where we will spend eternity by our *belief*. How we spend eternity is determined by our *behavior*. Believers will receive rewards according to their works. Unbelievers will be punished according to their works. Through God's grace we have been saved, but we will all have to face judgment. We will either receive a commendation or His wrath.

### 2. The Judgment Seat of Christ

Believers will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ to see how successfully we built on the foundation of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10). We need to consider whether our foundation will have precious value in God's eyes or be somewhat lacking (1 Corinthians 3:10–15). Nevertheless, it will be God Himself who will reward us face to face.

### 3. The Great White Throne Judgment

Unbelievers must stand before God where He will administer justice. Rather than storing up treasures for themselves, they have stirred up God's wrath and righteous judgment.

**\*Group Dynamics Idea\*** Do a group study on the word *grace*. Recall a time when God's grace was evidenced in your life, then write these moments down in a journal or in the margin of your Bible. This will serve as a reminder of God's gift.

## Discuss

1. Read Ephesians 2:8–9. According to God's Word, how are we saved?
2. Since we will all be judged, what factors are considered as we appear before God (Ecclesiastes 12:14)?
3. Who will appear before God at the Judgment Seat of Christ (Romans 14:10)? What will these individuals receive from Him due to their diligence, faithfulness, and generosity (1 Corinthians 3:14)?
4. What are we cautioned about in Matthew 6:2? What is the incorrect attitude illustrated in Matthew 6:1? What happens when charitable deeds are done correctly (Matthew 6:3–4; 1 John 2:28)?
5. Who will stand before God at the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11–13)? What do these people receive from Him because of their unbelief, rejection, and sinfulness (Romans 2:5)?
6. Pastor Robert stated that there are degrees of evil. How do you think this works in regard to eternity? Example: Adolf Hitler.
7. Take a moment to go quietly before God. He wants *all* of us to choose Jesus. By doing so, we will spend an eternity with Him in heaven. Are you ready to say, "Yes!" to Jesus?

**Take Home** As we conclude, remember the following:

- Our belief determines where we will spend eternity.
- Our behavior determines how we will spend eternity.
- Unbelievers will be punished at the Great White Throne Judgment.
- Believers will be rewarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- When we choose Jesus, we will spend eternity with Him.

**Prayer**

Dear God, I believe that Your Son, Jesus, died on the cross for me. I receive Him today as my Lord and Savior. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**\*New Leader Tip\*** We are all called to witness to those who do not know Jesus. Evangelism training helps us do this. Gateway Church has an upcoming training seminar conducted by Dr. Rice Broocks. This type of training equips us to reach out to the lost. The next seminar is scheduled for Saturday, August 25, at the Southlake Campus from 9 am to 12 pm. It is free and there is no registration required. Share information about opportunities like this with your group.