

Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

Topic: Accountability

INTRODUCTION: One of the basic principles that God has established since the _____ of man is the principle of accountability and without it, _____ in society and life is gone.

I. THE BEGINNING:

A. Privilege & Accountability:

1. God created a paradise upon earth called the Garden of _____ and there he placed the man and woman that He had created, and it was the _____ place to live. Gen. 2:8
2. However, along with the privilege of living in the most perfect place on _____, came some responsibility and along with it _____ accountability. Gen. 2:15

B. Accountability:

1. The Lord gave Adam & Eve the blessings of _____ in the Garden of Eden, but along with the blessings came accountability to God for their actions in their paradise on _____. Gen. 2:16,17
2. In the day that Adam and Eve disobeyed the commandment of the Lord, there came the _____ of being held accountable for their _____, and they could not escape that accountability. Gen. 3:8-13

C. Consequences:

1. Along with accountability, there came consequences for not fulfilling the _____ that God gave to them, establishing a principle that still _____ today. Gal. 6:7
2. The consequences for Adam and Eve have affected the entire _____ race until this very day, and nobody will escape one _____ being accountable to the Almighty God. Rom. 14:12

II. THE ORDER OF ACCOUNTABILITY:

A. In The Family:

1. Many people fail to understand that the principle of accountability is God-given and is for the _____ of individuals and for society as a _____.
2. The basic building block of society is the _____, the very first institution that God established in the _____ and it is built on the principle of accountability. I Cor. 11:3
3. The father and husband is accountable to _____ and to his wife and family, the _____ is also accountable to _____ and to her husband, and the children are to be accountable to their _____. Col. 3:18-21

B. In The Church:

1. The New Birth experience gives us the privilege of entering into a _____ life in Christ and we are put into the Body of Christ, which is the _____ of the living God. I Cor. 12:12-14
2. The privilege of being in the _____ also brings with it, a responsibility of accountability as we are no longer just an independent being but are now part of the _____ of Christ. I Cor. 12:18-21
3. Just as it is in the family order, so also there is an order of accountability in the _____ and the pastor is accountable to _____, the members are to be accountable to _____, the pastors and also to the other members of the Body of Christ. Heb. 13:17, I Cor. 12:25

III. THE DANGER OF NO ACCOUNTABILITY:

A. Left To One's Own Devices:

1. There was a time in the life of the nation of Israel when there was no _____ to be accountable to and it resulted in chaos and disorder among the _____ of God. Judges 17:6
2. When King David sent his army off to _____ and he stayed home to relax, he had no one to be accountable to, and he ended up falling into _____ which harmed himself, his family and the nation.
3. When King Saul lost his accountability sense, he began a downward spiral that he _____ recovered from, leading to his demise and eventual _____. I Sam. 13:9-14

B. Dangerous For Us:

1. God has established the principle of accountability for our personal _____ and good and when we choose to not be accountable to anyone, we put ourselves in _____. Pr. 1:7
2. In the message that Jesus gave in the story of the servants who were _____ responsibility, there was not just the blessing of _____ from the Master, but also the day of accountability.
3. Two of the servants of the Master understood the principle of accountability and they _____ and prepared for the day of accountability so they could be able to give a good _____. Mt. 25:16,17
4. Unfortunately there was one servant who _____ not to be accountable to anything or anyone and he accomplished very little for God and when the day came to _____ account to the Master, he was severely judged for his lack of accountability. Mt. 25:26, 29,30

C. Reasons Why People Avoid Accountability:

1. Pride – one of the reasons why some people do not _____ being accountable to anyone is because accountability requires _____, and it requires submission to one another. I Pt. 5:5
2. Rebellion – some people allow the same spirit that caused the _____ of satan to get into their hearts and they begin to resist all authority over them, not realizing that it will end up _____ them. I Sam 15:23
3. Fear – some people have had some bad experiences with _____ in authority and it has bred mistrust in them so that _____ are reluctant to be accountable to anyone anymore.

CONCLUSION: If people could only understand that accountability is really a _____ from God to help and protect us and to move us into the _____ of ministry, then we would not try to run from it, but instead would embrace it, realizing that it will bring the power and protection of God upon us.