

## Individual Accountability

We are individually responsible for our actions before God who will judge us on that great day

## Introduction

- In life, we interact with others daily having responsibilities in our families, the workplace, as citizens and in local churches
- When we fail to behave as we should, often we seek to blame others for our sins
- Or, we seek to use others to justify us in our sins

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## Blaming Others For Our Sins

Gen 3:11 And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

Gen 3:12 The man said, "The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate."

Gen 3:13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." 3

## Using Others To Justify Us In Our Sins

1Sa 15:20 Then Saul said to Samuel, "I did obey the voice of the LORD, and went on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and have brought back Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

1Sa 15:21 "But the people took *some* of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the choicest of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the LORD your God at Gilgal." 4

## Introduction

- Further, easy for each one to focus on the duties of others
- But, doing this does not aid us in fulfilling our individual duties before God
- No one can fulfill my responsibilities to God except me

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## Focus On Our Own Duties To God

Joh 21:18 "Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go."

Joh 21:19 Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He *\*said* to him, "Follow Me!" 6

## Focus On Our Own Duties To God

Joh 21:20 Peter, turning around, \*saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following *them*; the one who also had leaned back on His bosom at the supper and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"

Joh 21:21 So Peter seeing him \*said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?"

Joh 21:22 Jesus \*said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what *is that* to you? You follow Me!"

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## Introduction

- Must always remind ourselves that we will not be judged as families, local churches or in some other group form but as individuals
- Simple lesson to remind of this to encourage us to take individual responsibility for our service to God whether others obey the Lord or not

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## Jesus Died For Every Individual

Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

1Jn 2:2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for *those of the whole world*.

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## Each Individual Must Obey The Gospel To Be Saved

Mar 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

Mar 16:16 "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

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## Each Individual Must Obey The Gospel To Be Saved

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

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## Each Individual Must Obey The Gospel To Be Saved

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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## Each Must Utilize Individual Abilities God Has Given Us

Mat 25:15 "To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey.

Mat 25:18 "But he who received the one *talent* went away, and dug a *hole* in the ground and hid his master's money.

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## Each Must Utilize Individual Abilities God Has Given Us

Mat 25:21 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Mat 25:26 "But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no *seed*.

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## Each Must Utilize Individual Abilities God Has Given Us

Mat 25:27 'Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest.

Mat 25:28 'Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'

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## Each Must Utilize Individual Abilities God Has Given Us

Mat 25:29 "For to everyone who has, *more* shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.

Mat 25:30 "Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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## Each Responsible To Worship And Serve God

1Th 2:11 just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children,

1Th 2:12 so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

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## Each Responsible To Worship And Serve God

1Co 16:2 On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.

2Co 9:7 Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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## Each May Help Each Other But Each of Us Are Accountable

Gal 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

Gal 6:3 For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

Gal 6:4 But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have *reason for* boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.

Gal 6:5 For each one will bear his own load.

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## Exhortations Addressed To Individuals

Act 20:31 "Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

Heb 6:11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end,

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## Individual Christians Are Required To Work Together

Act 9:26 When he came to Jerusalem, he was trying to associate with the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple.

Act 9:27 But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

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## Individual Christians Are Required To Work Together

Act 9:28 And he was with them, moving about freely in Jerusalem, speaking out boldly in the name of the Lord.

1Jn 1:3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

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## Individual Christians Are Required To Work Together

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Php 1:5 in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.

1Co 10:16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?

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## Individual Christians Are Required To Work Together

2Co 8:3 For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, *they gave* of their own accord,

2Co 8:4 begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints,

1Jn 1:7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

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## Every Individual Will Face God's Judgment

Rom 2:5 But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,

Rom 2:6 who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS:

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## Every Individual Will Face God's Judgment

Rom 2:7 to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life;

Rom 2:8 but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation.

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## Every Individual Will Face God's Judgment

Rom 14:12 So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

2Co 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

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## Every Individual Will Face God's Judgment

Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

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## Every Individual Will Face God's Judgment

Rev 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds.

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## Why Not Choose To Submit To The Lord Now?

Rev 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

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