Daily Devotional, July 31, 2020

"Their Works Follow Them", (Revelation 14:13, NKJV)

"The I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.""." (Revelation 14:13)

Those in view here are Tribulation saints who, from that point forward, would be "slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held" (Revelation 6:9). This type of persecution occurs in various countries across the globe today, and it will intensify as the seven year time of Tribulation progresses. These folks who pay the ultimate price for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ are promised a special crown, the martyr's crown. "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). The faithful servants of God will have "rest from their labors" in heaven. "And their works follow them", and shall endure, being a foundation of works of gold. "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire" (1 Corinthians 3:11-15).

Please apply this to your own case, my friend. If Jesus Christ is your God and Savior, then you shall find yourself in heaven someday. But will there be any rewards in heaven for you? What are you doing with the manifold gracious gifts of God which God has given you? Have you been living your life for the glory of God? Would He be apt to say to you, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23)? Take your own inventory now. Are you a Christian going through the motions, with fire insurance only but no works? Or do you have any works to follow you to heaven, that you may glorify your God and Savior Jesus Christ when you get there?