

# LENT DEVOTION

Austin Christian Fellowship of India (ACFI)

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The imputed Righteousness of God in a believer's life also brings eternal rewards. The Lord has promised: "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he (she) has done" (Revelation 22:12). It is going to be a reward-ceremony in the life of a believer when he/she meets the Lord.

Our righteous acts - our conduct and character - will be rewarded. "I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man (woman) according to his (her) conduct, according to what his (her) deeds deserve" (Jeremiah 19:10).

Our doing good to the poor people will be rewarded. "He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done." Doing good for those who have done evil to you will fetch you the reward! "If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat, if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you" (Proverbs 25:21--22).

Thus I can add many more references from the Scriptures to validate that the Lord is going to reward you for your righteous living. The Psalmist himself assures: "The Lord has rewarded me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in His sight" (Psalms 18:24).

You, as a believer, have become the bride of Christ. He has traded your self-righteousness which is like "filthy rags" to His Righteousness and dressed you with "fine linen, bright and clean has been given to you to wear" ('Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints') (Revelation 19:8).

Friends, let us not give up on doing good; let us shun sin and all that contaminates our hearts - the bitterness, anger, jealousy, deceitfulness of the wealth and the evil desires. Let our body, soul, and the spirit be kept pure and blameless till the Lord comes (1Thssalonians 5:23). You are the "Instrument of God's Righteousness" in this world as the bride of Christ.