

Turning the Crap of Life, Into the Fruit of the Spirit Family

Your upbringing doesn't have to bring you down

It isn't about what we are given; it is what we do with what we have.

Rarely do you hear someone actually admit to doing something wrong. Even as children, when we are confronted with a situation we did something wrong, we do not want to admit it. Regardless of the proof, we always seem to have an answer. A movie star's husband has multiple extra-marital affairs with numerous women because of his father was abusive. One of the greatest golfers ever has multiple extra-marital affairs because his dad was too strict on him. From Presidents to protestors, everyone seems to blame their upbringing for their downfalls. So are they right?

Like a lot of famous people, we like to look to others to blame for things not going right. You back into a parked car because you forgot it was there, so obviously it was the person that parked it's fault. You didn't have time for breakfast because your daughter was dragging her feet getting ready so now you are mad and hungry and you didn't get anything out of the church service. The preacher ruined you Sunday because he went over and now your child didn't get his nap and is fussy all afternoon and evening. But is it really their fault? And who is responsible ultimately for the way you respond? Because, simply put, you are going to have problems in life. An old woman is going to pull out in front of you when you are in a hurry sending you into a rage.

So whose fault is the problems you have in your life? And once you know, how do you deal with them?

We will be held accountable for our own actions

Rom 14:12

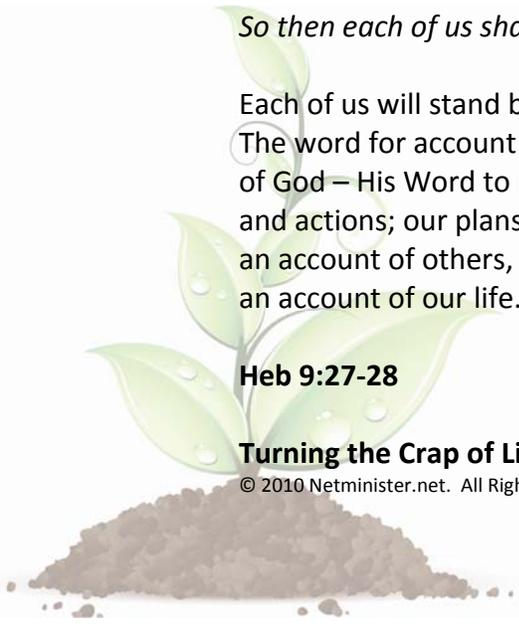
So then each of us shall give account of himself to God

Each of us will stand before Christ and give an account – a verbal explanation of our life. The word for account is the word **logos**, which defines as a word. The bible is the logos of God – His Word to us for our use. That is, of our character and conduct; our words and actions; our plans and purposes. When we stand before God we will not be giving an account of others, our family members or people who have hurt us, but we will give an account of our life.

Heb 9:27-28

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And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

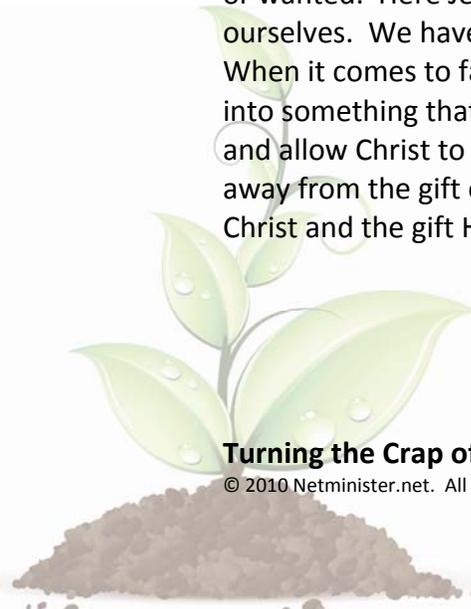
The word for Judgment is the word, **krisis** from which we derive our word crisis. The meaning in the original is a decision being made. Judgment is the time when we as an individual will be answering for our life. Not that of a family member that hurt us, not that of a father that was never there, not for a mother who was an alcoholic, but for our actions. We are held responsible for what we do with the life we are given. And it will be us standing alone before Christ on our day of judgment. Are you ready? What have you done with your life that you blame on others? Since they will not be there with you, what will you tell Jesus?

We have to decide our own actions

Matt 19:16-22

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but one, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

An important fella, someone with money, power and ability approaches Jesus. He is important in both at work and in society of the time. Approaching Jesus in a manner of wanting to learn, he asks Jesus a question, ill-prepared for the answer he receives. How often we ask for God only to find out that the answer we receive isn't what we expected or wanted. Here Jesus points out a firm biblical truth, that we must make a decision for ourselves. We have to decide. We have to live with the consequences of our decision. When it comes to family, past hurts, we have to decide to let it affect us and mold us into something that is not Christ-like. In the same way, we have to decide to let it go and allow Christ to heal our hurt. Otherwise we are like the rich young ruler who walks away from the gift of eternal life, and is held responsible for his actions, his rejection of Christ and the gift He is providing.



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