

Hebrews 6:9, “But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we speak in this manner.”

Hebrews 6:10, “For God *is* not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, *in that* you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

Hebrews 6:11, “And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end,

Hebrews 6:12, “that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

I. First, we can have confidence that despite failure, God's grace always provides for recovery. 6:9

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πείθω *peíthō*; perf. pass.

Intensive perfect: emphasizes present results of a completed past action.

to attain certainty in ref. to something, *be convinced, certain, persuaded*

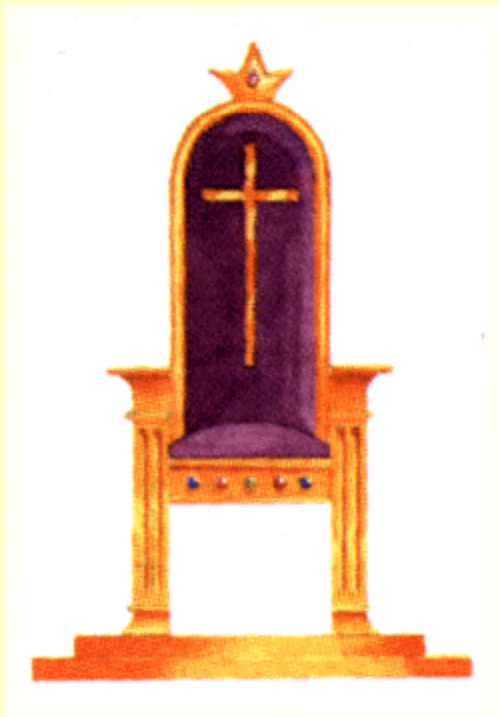
Lk 18:9, “And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt:”

Romans 8:38, “For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,

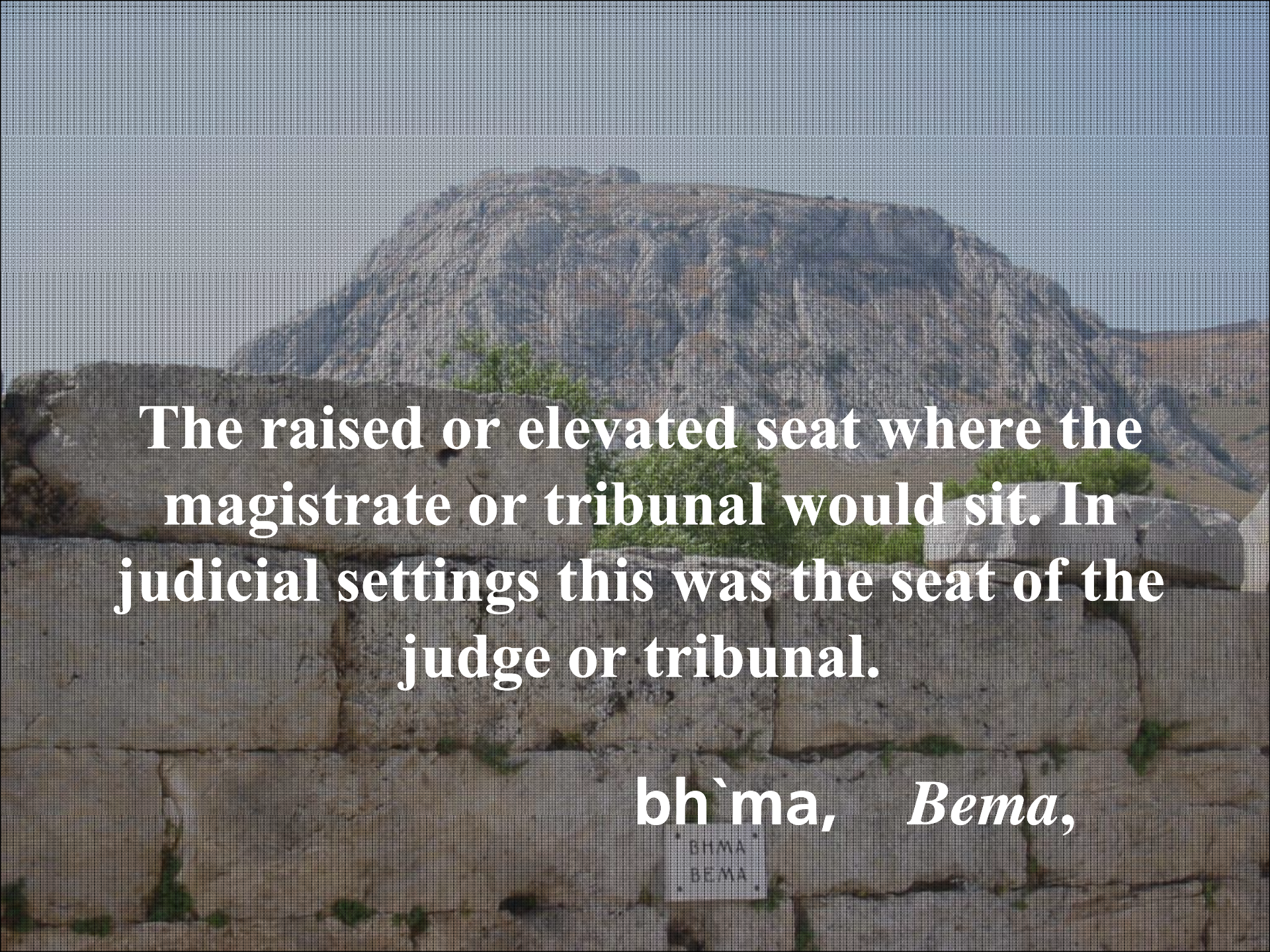
Romans 8:39, “nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**But beloved,
concerning you,**

**we are convinced of better things that are
related to your salvation.**



**2 Corinthians 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.”**



The raised or elevated seat where the magistrate or tribunal would sit. In judicial settings this was the seat of the judge or tribunal.

bh`ma, *Bema,*

BHIMA
BEMA







Bema seat for the judges at the Delphi stadium

2 Corinthians 5:6–9,

6 “Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord—

7 “for we walk by faith, not by sight—

8 “we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

9 “Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him.”

Hebrews 6:10, “For God *is* not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, *in that* you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

ESSENCE OF GOD

Sovereign

Omniscient

Righteousness

Omnipresent

Justice

Omnipotent

Love

Veracity

Eternal Life

Immutability

1. Our starting point for all thought has to be God.

2. The only way we can know anything substantive about God is through revelation.

3. Two categories of revelation: general and special.

4. General Revelation:

- Non verbal, nonspecific, nondirective (i.e., no commands)
- Includes God, man, and nature
- Must be interpreted by means of special revelation
- Nevertheless man can know something from general revelation

Romans 1:18, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Romans 1:19, “because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them.

Romans 1:20, “For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are **clearly seen**, being **understood** by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,”

5. Special Revelation

- Two types of special revelation: recorded, and non-recorded
- Also about God, man, and nature
- Special revelation is communicated propositionally, in the very words of God's thoughts

6. So in Special Revelation God has revealed to us who He is, not exhaustively, but truly.

7. The essence of God

Sovereign

Omniscient

Righteousness

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ἐπιλανθάνω *epilanthánō*;

epexegetical infinitive of
adikios

God Remembers:

Work

Labor of Love

Ministry

1. **ἔργον *érgon*; work, performance, the result or object of employment, making or working; labor, business, employment, something to be done.**

“Work” in itself is neither sinful nor righteous.

2. Some versions remove the word labor, but it is found in the majority of mss.

1 Thess 1:3, “constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and **labor of love** and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,”

διακονέω *diakonéō*; aor. act. part.

“to minister, to serve, perhaps to offer financial help”

A Biblical Doctrine of Works

- 1. The Greek word for “work” is morally neutral. It has the idea of labor, production, and can refer to either the works of the flesh or the production of the Holy Spirit.**

2. The word for “**work**” can mean that which is good, i.e., has eternal value, and results in the glory of God or that which has no eternal value, or is sinful, or self-righteous.

Mt 5:16, “Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your **good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”**

Lk 11:48, “So you are witnesses and approve the **deeds** of your fathers; because it was they who killed them, and you build *their tombs*.”

Gal 5:19, “Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,”

Jn 3:19, “This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their **deeds were evil.”**

Rom 3:20, “because by the **works** of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.”

Mt 23:5, “But they do all their **deeds** to be noticed by men; for they broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels *of their garments.*”

1 Cor 3:13, “each man’s **work** will become evident; for the day will show it because it is *to be revealed with fire*, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man’s work.

1 Cor 3:14, “If any man’s **work** which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.

1 Cor 3:15, “If any man’s **work** is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.”

2 Cor 9:8, “And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every **good deed;”**

Eph 2:10, “For we are His workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for **good works**, which
God prepared beforehand so that we would
walk in them.”

Ephesians 4:11, “And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

Eph 4:12, “for the equipping of the saints for the **work of service [diakonia]**, to the building up of the body of Christ;”

Eph 5:11, “Do not participate in the unfruitful **deeds** of darkness, but instead even expose them;”

1 Thess 1:3, “constantly bearing in mind your **work of faith** and **labor of love** and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,”