

Living Today with Eternity in Mind

There are amazing things we see in creation; everything brought into existence by an all-powerful and eternal God. But nothing in creation compares to God's design of man. We are born into this world, bound by time, yet God created us for eternity (*Ecc.3:11*). So as we live the lives God has granted us, trying to make good use of our time (*Eph.5:15-16*), we do so with eternity as the backdrop. Each day that is before us, each choice we have to make, every direction we decide to go has an effect on our ultimate destination, which is either an eternity with God, or being ever separated from Him.

A. Living with an Eternal _____ (*James 4:13-15*)

1. What's your attitude about this world? (*Rom 8:18*)
2. Understand that your station in life right now can affect your outlook (*Rom.14:11; 1 Peter 4:7-11; 2 Cor. 4:16-18*) We have to view ourselves as _____ (*1 Pet 2:9-11; Phil 3:20-21*)
3. Remember how Jesus and the apostles viewed things Jesus (*John 8:23; John 18:33-36; John 12:25*)
Apostles (*Romans 12:2; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-16*)

B. Keeping our _____ on the _____ (*Psalm 73*)

1. There is a powerful biblical example of what can happen when a believer gets his eyes off the Lord and starts focusing on transient things rather than eternal matters. *Psalm 73* contains the confession Asaph.
2. Struggling with the prosperity of the wicked (*Psalm 73:1-3*) Asaph's wrong attitude (*Psalm 73:4-5,12-14*)
3. Asaph's turning point (*Psalm 73:17-19*) Asaph's faith restored (*Psalm 73:21-22*; also note *2 Timothy 2:13*).

C. Focus Your Mind

1. Paul tells us how to guard against becoming comfortable with the world. (*Colossians 3:2; Philippians 4:8*)
2. Live triumphant in Christ and embrace your heritage (*1 Peter 2:11; Hebrews 11:13; Philippians 3:19-20*).
 - a. Are you longing for the Lord's return? Are you ready for the Lord to come...have you been living with Heaven in view, with eternity in mind? (*2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23-24*).
 - b. "Lord, keep me eternity conscious."

Living with Heaven and our eternity in mind is one of the keys to overcoming. It is something that will be important for those who live as Christians in an increasingly dark world. Let the "joy of the Lord" be your strength. (*Neh.8:10*)