

**Spiritual How-to's**  
**How to please the Lord**  
**Living for eternal values**  
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**Intro. Let's begin with a very short, true story quote... "Heaven"** by John M. Drescher...  
John Owen had a profound and life altering sense of living for eternity. He knew there was something more ahead for him, besides life on earth.

In these lessons we share brief, bite-sized, bible basics on how you can please the Lord. In this one, we will talk about how **Living for eternal values** pleases the Lord.

**I. First, let's understand, we were created with "eternity set" into our DNA.**

**"Also, He has put eternity into man's heart..." Ecc. 3:11**

A. Programmed into our genetic makeup is a **longing for something more**. The recognition that there is more to life than what we see.

B. Innate, within our soul we feel it, sense it and long for it.

1. I'm sure you've experienced that **mysterious feeling, longing, or pulling**

2. That thought after something big happened in your life, **"is that all?"**

C. **Created in God's image**, we have an **eternal component to us**, in fact, it is the purpose for which we were born, to live eternally with our Heavenly Father.

E. We **"crave for this mortal to be swallowed up by eternal life."** 2 Cor. 5:4

This yearning that we have, deep within us, is one of our spirit & soul being reunited With God in heaven.

1. In our spirits, we are "homesick" to be with the Master. 2 Cor. 5:6

2. Paul goes on to say, "we live in joyful confidence, yet at the same time we delight in the thought of leaving our bodies behind to be at home with the Lord." 2 Cor. 5:7

**II. Because of this eternal expectation** that we have, Paul says, **"our life's passion is to please the Lord."** 2 Cor. 5:9 TPT

A. What's your passion for life? **What's your aim**, goal, drive?

1. **What is it that you aim at** as you plan and walk your daily life? What is your goal?

2. The **Greek word for passion/aim means = "to be fond of honor; eager to do; ambitious"** G5389

B. **What is your personal ambition? Your age is irrelevant, your ambition is.**

1. Our ambition includes - where we want to go to school, work, our profession

a. How we want to spend our time, how we choose to prepare

b. What activities we value, what actions we take, deeds we complete

2. **Our ambition is what drives us**; our goal(s), our end game
3. **What is your ambition? Is it driven by eternity or earthly passions?**
4. Even the job we do or class we attend, is it used to advance the Kingdom? In it, is our goal to please the Lord?

**C. The message in this text is powerful - 2 Cor. 5:1-10**

1. Because we have confidence in a future in heaven, THAT keeps us in pursuit of pleasing Christ
2. Because we know that **we all will appear before the judgment seat** to receive what we are due, based on our deeds on earth, according to our obedience in faith. Rom. 1:5; 16:26; 1 Cor. 3:11-15
3. One day, we will ALL will be openly revealed by Christ and **duly rewarded for our actions done in this life**, whether good or worthless
  - a. **Only those things done for the glory of Christ** will pass through the fire, like gold & diamonds. -Eternal in value
  - b. **All other deeds will burn** as chaff and blow away, worthless in eternal value
  - c. 1 Cor. 4:5; Rev. 20:12; Psa. 62:12; Pro. 24:12; 1 Cor. 9:4-27; Rom.14:10-12
4. **So you see, our present day actions have eternal consequences**
  - a. What we choose to do and how we choose to live NOW, bears ETERNAL weight
  - b. Actually - even determines part of our judgment in heaven
  - c. That can be frightful, or that can be exhilarating!

**D. Jesus is the foundation laid in our life.** We live eternally based on receiving His gift of **salvation**. But what we build on that foundation, here in this life, is up to us.

1. **How we obeyed Him**, lived the Great Commission, reigned over sin, showed mercy, loved others, built His kingdom, sowed into His bride (the church) ...
2. **How we use our personality, gifts, talents, time, money, energies & effort can and should give evidence of having lived on this earth for eternal values.**
3. **Because anything else, won't last and won't please the Lord.**

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