

Psalm 27:1-11 (NIV)

1 **Do not fret because of evildoers**. Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity.
 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, And wither as the green herbs.
 3 Trust in the Lord, and do good. Dwell in the land, and lead on like cedars of Lebanon.
 4 Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.
 5 Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.
 6 We shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the morning.
 7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him. **Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.**
 8 **Come from anger, and forsake wrath, Do not fret—it only causes harm.**
 9 For evildoers shall be cut off, But those who wait on the Lord, They shall inherit the earth.
 10 For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more.
 11 **But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.**

the Christian Disciple

A child of God
Then a disciple of God

Read the Bible

1. Is knowing God's Word worth the effort?

a. Where is our effort focused?

How much **effort** is focused on knowing God's word?

Knowing God's word is equivalent to knowing God

How well do you know God?

Is God worth knowing?

We were saved, to do something! And that something is **to prepare for eternity**:

Many times in Paul's teachings, he's assuming for the sake of his point, that **the Christian is an advancing believer**.

He's not saying that we are **advancing**, but he's assuming that we are for the sake of the point he's making

Ephesians 2:1-10 (NIV)

1 And **you He made alive**, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

1 Corinthians 15:22 (NIV)
22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive

Dead because of

believer **the manner of walk** but we once lived in

He made us alive so that we would no longer have to live **the death like experience of an unbeliever**

What manner of life did you live before you were saved?

No matter what manner of life it was, at what point does it significantly change?

2 in which you **ONCE walked according to the course of this world**, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.

3 among whom also we all **ONCE conducted ourselves** in the lusts of our flesh, **fulfilling the desires** of the flesh

and of the mind, and were by nature **children of wrath**, just as the others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

5 even when we were **dead in trespasses**, made us alive **together** with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

6 and raised us up **together**, and made us sit **together** in the heavenly places **in Christ Jesus**

This is distinct in all of history, no believer ever had this privilege.

Our position right now is we're seated at the right hand of the Father in Christ. That's phenomenal! This shows the wonderful distinctions of Church Age believers.

This is our identity in Christ **for a purpose, and that is...**

IN THE AGES TO COME

7 that in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus,

He might show the exceeding riches of His grace

The descriptive quality of existence is preluded on the assumption of an advancing believer. Not to diminish from the fact that all believers have everlasting life

purpose = A purpose conjunction indicates the goal or aim of the action denoted by the word, phrase, or clause to which it is joined.

2471 lex (hina): conj. (primarily with the subjunctive mood following). + 39: 2462 & 2383; TONIT 3: 323 - L. LN 88: 38 is a verb to a marker of purpose (Mt 4:21)

171 αἰών (aión): noun (fem); 4 (fem) n.male; + 28: 146: 8638, 39: 188; TONIT 1: 197 - L. LN 47: 143 era, a unit of time as a particular stage of history

Explanation for verses 1-7

8 **For** by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 **not of works**, lest anyone should boast.

10 **for** we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **for good works**, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Our effort is to be focused on:

1. Fellowship with the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:18 (NIV)

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

2. And learning and internalizing the living word

Ephesians 5:18 (NIV)

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

Romans 8:5-6 (NIV)

5 For **those who live according to the flesh** set their minds on the things of the flesh, **but**

those who **live according to the Spirit** set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

May to fellowship they set their minds on the teachings of scripture

6 For to be carnally minded is **death** but to be spiritually minded is **life** and peace.

What effort does God expect us to apply to understand and obey His word?

Remember:

It's God who sets the acceptable standard, not you and I.

Hebrews 4:2 (NIV)

2.... for He said, "Now that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."

We are to apply ourselves with the same effort of an athlete training for the Olympics but the effort that we are putting forth is for an eternal reward

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (NIV)

24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. **Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.**

26 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air.

27 But I discipline my body and bring it into submission, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

There was judgment in time for the unfaithful Jewish believers:

1 Corinthians 10:1-7 (NIV)

1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,

2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

3 all ate the same spiritual food,

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.

7 And do not become idolaters as some some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play."

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (NIV)

10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. **But let each one take heed how he builds on it.**

11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with **gold, silver, precious stones**, wood, hay, straw,

13 each one's work will become clear; for **the Day will declare it**, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.

14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.

15 If anyone's work is burned, **he will suffer loss**, but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

The judgment seat of Christ is an evaluation of believer's lives:

Not to determine where you'll spend eternity, that's already determined, we have eternal life.

But to determine how we spend eternity.

2 Corinthians 5:9-10 (NIV)

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before **the judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, **whether good or bad**

Romans 14:10-12 (NIV)

10 But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before **the judgment seat of Christ**

11 For it is written: "As I live," says the Lord, "Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God."

12 So then **each of us** shall give account of himself to God.

Isaiah 45:23 (NIV)

23 I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness, And shall not return, That to Me every knee shall bow, Every tongue shall take an oath.

2.
3.
4.