

Session # 10

The Daily Goal in Spirituality -- Pleasing God

Introduction

- A. It is important to have clearly defined goals. The old saying is correct, "If we aim at nothing -- we are sure to achieve it."
- B. The Christian understands how we are to live for the glory of God. The problem, however, is relating the glory of God to the practice of everyday life.
- C. One helpful way of solving this problem is to make an affirmation when you first wake up. Say to God, "In this day I will please You -- not matter what happens."

I. The Basis for this Goal of Spirituality.

- A. David made such a goal practical in his daily life.

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. Psalm 19:14 NIV

Comment: How did David become such a godly person that the Lord said he was a man after His own heart? (Acts 13:22) Here we are told.

- B. Paul made such a goal practical in His daily life.

So we make it our goal to please him ... for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. II Cor 5:9,10 NIV

Comment: Paul learned how valuable it was to choose to please God.

- C. Paul taught that such a goal was important in one's daily life.

Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk (live) and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. I Thess. 4:1

Comment: Here we see how Paul disciplined his converts and instructed the churches. We cannot treat pleasing God as one option among many.

- D. Enoch is commended for living so he would please God.

By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death, and was not found, because God had translated him, for before his translation he had this testimony that he pleased God. Heb 11:5

Comment: How did Enoch overcome the ungodliness of his day? He chose daily to please the Lord. This is good advice for us and will help us when tempted.

E. John taught that pleasing God was related to a successful prayer life.

And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. I John 3:22

Comment: Here pleasing God is defined as obedience. And, we have the promise that if we please God -- we will glorify Him through our prayers.

II. The Explanation of this Goal of Spirituality.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect (equipped) in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Heb. 13:20,21

Comment: These verses identify the will of God with pleasing Him. Do we long for the will of God? Then let's start to establish the goal to please Him.

III. The Assurance Related to this Goal of Spirituality.

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do his good pleasure. Phil. 2:12,13

Comment: We are encouraged as we are here taught that God is seeking to work in us so we will make the right decisions (to will) and to obey Him (do). Choosing to please God opens the door for the experience of His power.

IV. Warnings Related to this Goal of Spirituality.

A. All forms of complaining and covetousness are displeasing to God.

And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord, and the Lord heard it, and his anger was kindled and the fire of the Lord burnt among them and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp. Num. 11:1

Comment: God had delivered His people from Egypt and was caring for them -- yet they complained. His love, forgiveness, care, protection, and promises were not enough -- they wanted things to be different.

B. All forms of immorality is displeasing to God.

And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her (Bathsheba), to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord. I Sam. 11:27

Comment: We cannot please God with any form of sensuality and immorality in our life. We do not have to be perfect -- but we must be honest.

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