

From Heaven's Eyes
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Introduction: How can I find real purpose in life?

- A. What we can only learn from our earthly eyes is very limited.
 - 1. Solomon has already done the work for us. What can we learn from “under the sun?” (**Ecc 1:13-14; 2:10-11, 18-20**)
 - 2. When God is considered the picture changes dramatically. (**Ecc 3:14; 5:7; 8:12-13; 12:13**)
- B. The Bible allows us to look back from eternity!
 - 1. One of my favorite verses makes this point. (**Rom 8:18**)
 - 2. This is the power of God's word. We do not have to be limited to the viewpoint of this life! Let us consider a few things we can learn from “heaven's eyes!”

I. Heaven's Eyes teach us about Value

- A. The saving of a soul is more important than the whole world.
 - 1. Jesus taught this! (**Mk 8:36-38**)
 - 2. Jesus came for this very purpose. (**Lk 19:9-10; Jn 8:23-24**)
 - 3. One of the major purposes of our assemblies is to remember!
 - 4. What would happen if each of us would have a clear view of this? (**Dan 12:3**)
- B. Building a Christian home is more important than the world.
 - 1. Marriage is what it should be when you are “heirs together of the grace of life.” (**1 Pt 3:7; Titus 1:2; 3:7**)
 - 2. This ability to know God and believe His promises allows us to see heaven!
 - 3. You should be very thankful to have married a Christian.
 - 4. The raising of faithful children will be more important than anything else we can do. What a blessing to have faithful children! (**3 Jn 2-4**)
 - 5. As we age this becomes clearer even before we look back in eternity.
- C. Having Jesus as our head and thus being in His body has eternal value.
 - 1. The gates of hell will not prevail against the church! (**Mt 16:18**)
 - 2. These gates will be breached because Jesus did and has promised us that we too will escape the grave! (**Heb 2:14-15**)
 - 3. Look around you. Here is a group of people who have believed God's promises for an eternal inheritance. Are you in the one body? (**1 Cor 12:13**)
- D. The written word of God will never pass away. (**Mt 24:35**)
 - 1. How many atheists and even kingdoms have tried to destroy it?
 - 2. Every man will hear this word at the judgment. (**Rev 20:12**)
 - 3. The writings of men will be burned up and utterly forgotten.
 - 4. Physical things will all pass away! (**1 Tim 6:6-8**)

II. Heaven's eyes will teach us about Wisdom

- A. I can clearly see to trust God about the issues of life I take on. (**Mt 11:28-30**)

1. Satan is relentless. If he cannot keep one from becoming a Christian then he will seek to over burden a man.
 2. One of the great temptations is to try to take on and do God's work for Him.
 3. Many Christians are caught in a pattern of failure. We need to learn from Jesus who can give us "heaven's eyes!" (**Jn 3:12-13**)
 4. Knowing what to give to God in prayer is knowable. In these areas we learn to wait. Over time, you will see the providence of God!
- B. I will not take the place of God *in dealing with others*.
1. We can let concern for the spiritual well-being of a brother turn to a faithless worry. Consider God's warning. (**Rom 14:4-5**)
 2. When we cross the line and seek to make judgments and demands that are God's prerogative, we will *do much damage to the cause of Christ*.
 3. The realm in which we operate is very limited. Consider the difference between what God knows about another and what we *actually know*. (**1 Cor 4:3-5**)
 4. The Bible does speak of those who cross the line! (**1 Pt 4:15; 1 Tim 5:13**)
- C. I can know the wasted energy and time that come when *I allow fear and worry to take my thoughts*. (**1 Jn 4:17-18**)
1. Is it not remarkable how far fear and worry can take us?
 2. We often act rashly and do harm when we "take council of our fears."
 3. With heaven's eyes we can see how God provided in ways we could not have seen with earthly eyes! (**Rom 8:28**)
 4. We can find heaven's eyes by looking at nature! (**Mt 6:26-30; 10:29-32**)
- D. We can know that *both pain and pleasure in this life is temporary*. (**1 Cor 7:29-31**)
1. We have seen how pain compares to God's glory.
 2. Those who lived for pleasure will gain a sad wisdom from "hell's eyes."
(**Lk 16:25**)
 3. Our God will comfort in this life and in heaven! (**2 Cor 1:3-5**)

III. Heaven's eyes will teach us about God

- A. Those who find eternal life will have *known God*. (**Jn 17:3-5**)
1. What qualities of God have drawn you to Him?
 2. When we really see God then these qualities will become part of us.
(**Eph 5:1; Rom 8:29**)
- B. We will come to *love justice and mercy*. (**Micah 6:8**)
1. We come to be so thankful for the absolute fairness and mercy of God to us.
 2. God's forgiveness allows us to forsake excuses and see what is real.
 3. These things make us very tender and forgiving of others. (**Eph 4:31-32**)
 4. The acid test of knowing God (having heaven's eyes) is how we treat others!
(**1 Jn 4:20-21; James 2:13**)
 5. I will not regret the patience and longsuffering needed to help another to heaven!
- C. We will know that God's love is eternal! (**1 Cor 13:8, 13**)

Conclusion: Whose eyes do you have? (**Mt 6:22-23**)