

I AM MAN

REFLECTING GOD'S CHARACTER
IN A WORLD OF CHAOS

Week Eleven: "I Am A Man ... Of Eternity"

I. Jesus is eternal

- The Son of God has no _____
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. – John 1:1-3

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. – 1 John 1:1-2

- The Son of God has no _____
This power he [God] exercised in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms far above every rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. – Ephesians 1:20-21

After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. – Mark 16:19

III. I am a man of ... eternity

- Unlike Christ, we each had a beginning
- But like Christ, we each have no end

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" – 1 Corinthians 15:51-55

- Every man faces an eternity ahead of them – Matthew 25:31-46
 - Eternity is a _____ for every human being
 - The issue isn't whether you face an eternity, it's just a matter of _____
 - Death is not the end – it is just the _____ into eternity

III. Live with eternity in mind

The one who loves his life destroys it, and the one who hates his life in this world guards it for eternal life. – John 12:25 (NET Bible)

*I press on towards the goal to win **the prize** for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus. – Philippians 3:14*

*... we know that the one who raised up Jesus **will also raise us up with Jesus** and will bring us with you into his presence. For all these things are for your sake, so that the grace that is including more and more people may cause thanksgiving to increase to the glory of God. **Therefore we do not despair**, but even if our physical body is wearing away, our inner person is being renewed day by day. For our momentary light suffering is producing for us an **eternal weight of glory** far beyond all comparison, because we are not looking at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen. For what can be seen is temporary, but **what cannot be seen is eternal**. For we know that if our earthly house, the tent we live in, is dismantled, we have a building from God, a house not built by human hands, **that is eternal in the heavens**. For in this earthly house we groan, because we desire to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed, after we have put on our heavenly house, we will not be found naked. For indeed we groan while we are in this tent, since we are weighed down, because we do not want to be unclothed, but clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. **Now the one who prepared us for this very purpose is God**, who gave us the Spirit as a down payment. Therefore we are always full of courage, and we know that as long as we are alive here on earth we are absent from the Lord – for we live by faith, not by sight. **Thus we are full of courage and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord**. So then whether we are alive or away, **we make it our ambition to please him**. – 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:9*

- _____ on eternity
- Keep your eyes on what is _____
- Remember that your reward is in _____
- Consider life here as a _____ from enjoying life eternal
- Face life with _____, not fear
- Make it your _____ to please Him

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves, when our dreams have come true because we have dreamed too little, when we arrive safely because we have sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess, we have lost our thirst for the waters of life; having fallen in love with life, we have ceased to dream of eternity; and in our efforts to build a new earth, we have allowed our vision of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas where storms will show your mastery; where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars. We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes; and to push into the future in strength, courage, hope, and love.

– Sir Frances Drake

ANSWER KEY: beginning, end, reality, where, entrance, focus, unseen, heaven, delay, courage, ambition