

Recalibrate Your Perspective 2024-09-22

Colossians 3:2

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Retirement plan; future goals direct present action. Examples: eating **healthy**, being **debt-free**.

- The **Main** point is that the **Lord** wants **Christian lives** to be **dominated** by an **eternal perspective**.

God calls Christians to live with an **eternal perspective**, yet many believers primarily live with an **earthly future**, rather than **eternal future, in mind**.

- **We pursue good** but **eternally worthless things** that are **eventually destroyed** or **left behind** when they die. John 12:43, John 6:27, 2 Peter 3:10-13

The most eye-opening moment in **eternal existence** is the **crossing** from **this life** to the **next**.

- For the unbeliever, they feel the **reality** of **Jesus Christ**, and of **sin**. For the Christian, maybe **joy**, maybe **regret**? Because the **unseen** is now **seen**.
 - **We realize** we foolishly **focused** the **majority** of our short **life** on the **temporal** and **worthless**.
 - **How** would you **live** this **week**, if you **knew** it was your **last**?

In comparison to eternity your life short. It's imperative to **invest** it **NOW** in 4 things **that are eternal**: God, the **Word**, people's **souls**, and Godly **character**. James 4:14, Psalm 90:2, Mark 13:31, 2 Corinthians 5:10, 1 Timothy 4:8

- **Live** for **God's glory** and **eternal treasures** like fellowship with Jesus in Word and prayer, **praying for** and **serving others**, discipling, **teach Sunday school**, "**one anothers**."

The **Holy Spirit** must **transform** and **recalibrate** our **heart** to **desire** and **pursue** the **unseen (eternal)** above the **seen (temporal)**. Colossians 3:2, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, 5:7, Hebrews 11:1, Romans 12:2

- **Living** for the "**seen**" means a **life focused** and **dictated** by things of this **world** and of **flesh**.
- **Living** for the "**unseen**" means a **life focused** and **dictated** by **eternal realities beyond** the **present senses**, like **Jesus Christ**, heaven and hell, and **eternity**.
 - **Hearts** that **value** and **desire** the **Lord above all** else will **live** with an eternal perspective with **delight not duty**.

If you **live for** the **unseen above** the **seen**, you **will give higher priority** to **inward character** and **holiness** over **outward appearance** and **worldly praises** or **accomplishments**. 1 Peter 3:3-4, Galatians 5:22-24

- This is especially **relevant** with **today's self-centered, image-oriented** world.

- If you're **young**, you have a certain **look**. If you're **old**, you try to look **young**. We have to have the "**right stuff**", or have the right "**achievements**".
- **We spend** lots of **time** and **money** to make our **exterior** look **good**, while **inside** we are **ugly** and **broken**.
 - **The most important** thing is not **looks**, but who you are **becoming**: holy and Christ-like
- By **God's grace**, become **beautiful** on **inside**.
 - **Humble**, patient, generous, **selfless** and compassionate.

From the **heart springs** all **words** and **actions**, all **issues** of **life**. The heart filters the **view** of **cornfield** or **rain** through personal context. Matthew 12:34-35, Matthew 6:19-21.

- **Every day** you are either **moving toward** or **away** from your **heart's delight**.
 - **Living** for the **seen** and temptation is to move **away**. Living for the **unseen** and eternal is to move **closer**
- **You can't change** the **past**, but you **can change** the **future**. Psalm 90:12, Colossians 3:2, Ephesians 5:15-16
 - **Daily evaluate** the **opportunity cost**: the cost of doing or not doing a project.
 - **Make decisions** about your **time**, money, or other priorities that reflect **living** for eternity. **Look at the beach** vs. a **grain of sand**.

The Lord wants **Christian lives dominated** by an **eternal** perspective **through living** for the **unseen above** the **seen** and **focus** on **inner holiness over outward appearance** (hunger and thirst for righteousness).

- **Carpe diem**: **seize** the day, week or **life** for the **glory of God** and by God's **grace live** with an **eternal perspective**. See Ravenhill, and Studd quotes at the end
 - **Invest** your **life** in **what** will **last** an **eternity!**

Leonard Ravenhill

"We live too much in time. We're too earthbound. We see as other men see. We think as other men think. We invest our time as the world invests it, but if we took hold of eternity as a reality, I'm convinced we'd be a different breed of people."

C.T. Studd

"Only one life' twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last."