



Living in God's Will

God's Will in Creation and in Eternity

Recap

- God created everything with purpose
 - Man was created to:
 - Have fellowship with God, Obey God, Work, Multiply
- The Role of Evil in God's plan
 - God is glorified when he judges sin and evil
 - Part of God's Plan A, not Plan B.
- Christ the center of God's eternal purpose and will
 - Christ was the means by which God would accomplish his plan of redemption, thus manifesting so greatly and so meaningfully his manifold wisdom and divine attributes.


What Now?

- In light of an overview of God's over all plan and purpose in creation and eternity, what is required of me as a child of God?

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Pleasing God

- Everything exists for God's pleasure
 - Man exists to please God
 - This is our ultimate purpose, and living a life that is pleasing to God will naturally bring us personally the most fulfillment because we are doing and being exactly what God intended us to be.

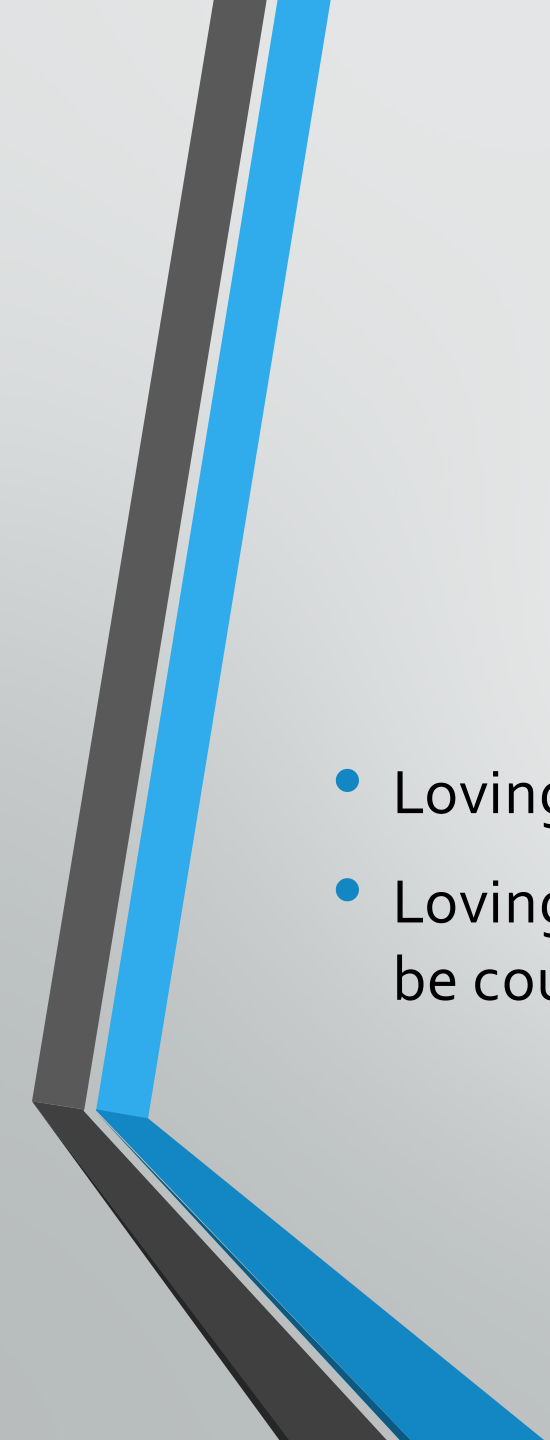
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- Your faith is a prerequisite for pleasing God (Hebrews 11:6)
 - Obedience to parents (Colossians 3:20)
 - Speaking the gospel (I Thessalonians 2:4; I Corinthians 1:21)
 - Uprightness (I Chronicles 29:17-22; Proverbs 14:2)
 - Your prosperity (Psalm 35:27)
 - Those that fear him (Psalm 147:11)
 - His people (Psalm 149:4)
 - Praising God in song and magnifying him with thanksgiving (Psalm 69:30-31)
 - Giving us the kingdom (Luke 12:32)
 - Predestinating us unto the adoption of children (Ephesians 1:5)
 - Making known unto us the mystery his will (Ephesians 1:9)
 - His creation (Revelation 4:11)
 - Blessing Israel (Numbers 24:1)
 - With the sacrifice of the righteous (Psalm 51:19)
 - Not entangling yourself with the affairs of this life (II Timothy 2:4)
 - To do justly, and love mercy, and to walk humbly with God (Micah 6:6-8)
 - Enoch pleased God (Hebrews 13:16; Genesis 5:21-24)
 - Jesus (John 8:29), bruising the Messiah (Isaiah 53:10)
 - When we ask for discernment between good and evil and an understanding heart (I Kings 3:5-14)

Pleasing God

- These are just a few of the particulars in scripture where God says this pleases me.
- How can we best summarize all of these particulars?

29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: 30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. 31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.



Loving God (*according to knowledge*) & Loving others

- Loving God ***requires*** sound doctrine that comes from God's word
- Loving God is not just merely an emotional and heartfelt thing, but it must be coupled with correct doctrine if God is going to accept it.

1 Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Loving God (*according to knowledge*) & Loving others

- Theology Matters!
 - Doctrine of God is vitally important to worshipping and loving God.
- The first commandment includes the doctrine of one God. This means part of loving God is an understanding and knowledge of who God is. It requires having a proper doctrine of God.
 - The doctrine of God answers who God is.
 - I AM *this*, I AM *that*
 - Consistent with the idea of God wanting to reveal himself to creation, sound doctrine is vitally important since it is what defines who God is.

12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? 8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you. 9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. 10 I have confidence in you through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded: but he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment, whosoever he be. 11 And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased. 12 I would they were even cut off which trouble you. 13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. 14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

What is Love?

- This word has been so perverted by the wicked, that even some who call themselves Christians don't have an accurate understanding of this term, mainly because they neglect God's word and how he defines it.
- How does God describe love?

4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, 5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; 6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; 7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. 8 Charity never faileth...

Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.

What is Love?

- Love is a choice, not an emotion: though oftentimes the byproduct of love is emotions.
- Love includes hating. You cannot love properly without hating properly.

3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

What Now?

- In order that we might **please God** and fulfill the purpose of our existence:
 - Love God according to knowledge
 - Love others as yourself
 - Love what God loves, hate what God hates
 - Enjoy the walk with God!