

## What Does God Expect of Me?

This is one of the most important questions a person can ask. Just what does God want me to do? If you do not know the answer to this question, then you cannot know whether or not you are pleasing God.

Jesus emphasized the importance of this in Mt. 7:21-23, "*Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. 'Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'*

The people Jesus described, in the above passage, were busy religiously. They were proclaiming the word. They were doing good deeds. But God was not pleased with them. They were not doing what God wanted them

### Let us consider what God expects of us:

to.

- 1 **To Know.** We cannot please God if we do not know what God expects.
  - Eph. 5:17 *So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*
  - We please God when we are doing His will. Living by a standard of "what I want" or "what I think is best" will not work. Jesus told us to pray, "Thy will be done" (Mt 6:10).
  - Jn 8:31 *If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*
  - The way we learn what God wants is by reading, studying and applying the Bible.
  - Ignorance leads to speculation and false ideas that take us away from what God wants.

② **To Establish a Good & Honest Heart.**

- It is the good and honest heart that allowed the seed of God's word to grow (Lk 8:15).
- Ps 51:17 *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.*
- An honest heart will admit sins and failures. An honest heart will seek the Lord and do whatever the Lord asks of him.
- God wants all of us to repent (Lk 13:3). God wants us to be baptized into Jesus (Mk. 16:15-16).
- God wants us to obey Him. 1 Jn. 3:22b, *"...we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing to Him."*
- Heb 5:9 *And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation"*
- It is the dishonest heart that will look for excuses and reasons not to do what God says.

③ **To Grow.** God wants us to be strong and powerful. It is the soul established by faith in the Lord that can stand the storms of life (Mt 7:24-27).

- God wants us to grow to be like Christ.  
Rom 8:29 *"For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son"*  
  
Eph 4:32 *And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.*
- God wants us to grow strong to fight the devil (Eph 6:13; Jas 4:7).

④ **To Show**

- God wants us to bear fruit (Jn 15:2)
- God wants us to show Jesus in our life (Mt. 5:16)

⑤ **To Go**

- Worship Him in spirit and truth (Jn 4:24)
- do good deeds (Titus 2:14; Gal. 6:10)
- to Heaven (Jn 14:2-3; Phil. 3:14)

*Are you busy doing what God expects?*

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