

MOST FREQUENT AND URGENT QUESTIONS

- WHO AM I?
- WHY AM I HERE?
- WHERE AM I GOING?

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... ¹SO WE DO NOT LOSE HEART. THOUGH OUR OUTER SELF IS WASTING AWAY, OUR INNER SELF IS BEING RENEWED DAY BY DAY. ²FOR THIS LIGHT MOMENTARY AFFLICTION IS PREPARING FOR US AN ETERNAL WEIGHT OF GLORY BEYOND ALL COMPARISON. ³AS WE LOOK NOT TO THE THINGS THAT ARE SEEN BUT TO THE THINGS THAT ARE UNSEEN. FOR THE THINGS THAT ARE SEEN ARE TRANSIENT, BUT THE THINGS THAT ARE UNSEEN ARE ETERNAL. ⁴FOR WE KNOW THAT IF THE TENT THAT IS OUR EARTHLY HOME IS DESTROYED, WE HAVE A BUILDING FROM GOD, A HOUSE NOT MADE WITH HANDS, ETERNAL IN THE HEAVENS. ⁵FOR IN THIS TENT WE GROAN, LONGING TO PUT ON OUR HEAVENLY DWELLING, ⁶IF INDEED BY PUTTING IT ON WE MAY NOT BE FOUND NAKED.

-.002.tiff

⁴FOR WHILE WE ARE STILL IN THIS TENT, WE GROAN, BEING BURDENED—NOT THAT WE WOULD BE UNCLOTHED, BUT THAT WE WOULD BE FURTHER CLOTHED, SO THAT WHAT IS MORTAL MAY BE SWALLOWED UP BY LIFE. ⁵HE WHO HAS PREPARED US FOR THIS VERY THING IS GOD, WHO HAS GIVEN US THE SPIRIT AS A GUARANTEE. ⁶SO WE ARE ALWAYS OF GOOD COURAGE. WE KNOW THAT WHILE WE ARE AT HOME IN THE BODY WE ARE AWAY FROM THE LORD, ⁷FOR WE WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT. ⁸YES, WE ARE OF GOOD COURAGE, AND WE WOULD RATHER BE AWAY FROM THE BODY AND AT HOME WITH THE LORD. ⁹SO WHETHER WE ARE AT HOME OR AWAY, WE MAKE IT OUR AIM TO PLEASE HIM.
—2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-5:9

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I. THE VIEW

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-5:1

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"THE FACT THAT WE LIVE AT THE BOTTOM OF A DEEP GRAVITY WELL, ON THE SURFACE OF A GAS COVERED PLANET GOING AROUND A NUCLEAR FIREBALL 90 MILLION MILES AWAY AND THINK THIS TO BE NORMAL IS OBVIOUSLY SOME INDICATION OF HOW SKEWED OUR PERSPECTIVE TENDS TO BE." —DOUGLAS ADAMS

"WE CAN COMPLAIN BECAUSE ROSE BUSHES HAVE THORNS, OR REJOICE BECAUSE THORNS HAVE ROSES." —ALPHONSE KARR

"I WILL LOVE THE LIGHT FOR IT SHOWS ME THE WAY, YET I WILL ENDURE THE DARKNESS FOR IT SHOWS ME THE STARS." —OG MANDINO

"NOTHING IS REALLY WORK UNLESS YOU WOULD RATHER BE DOING SOMETHING ELSE." —J.M. BARRIE

"LIFE CAN ONLY BE ENJOYED AS ONE ACQUIRES A TRUE PERSPECTIVE OF LIFE AND DEATH AND OF THEIR REAL PURPOSE OF LIFE." —SPIROS ZODHIATES

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¹LET NOT YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED. BELIEVE IN GOD; BELIEVE ALSO IN ME. ²IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE ARE MANY ROOMS. IF IT WERE NOT SO, WOULD I HAVE TOLD YOU THAT I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU?

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³AND IF I GO AND PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU, I WILL COME AGAIN AND
WILL TAKE YOU TO MYSELF, THAT WHERE I AM YOU MAY BE ALSO.
⁴AND YOU KNOW THE WAY TO WHERE I AM GOING. —JOHN 14:1-4

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2. THE STRUGGLE
2 CORINTHIANS 5:2-8

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FOR I AM ALREADY BEING Poured OUT AS A DRINK
OFFERING, AND THE TIME OF MY DEPARTURE HAS COME.
—2 TIMOTHY 4:6

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¹AND IT IS GOD WHO ESTABLISHES US WITH YOU IN CHRIST, AND HAS
ANOINTED US, ²AND WHO HAS ALSO PUT HIS SEAL ON US AND GIVEN
US HIS SPIRIT IN OUR HEARTS AS A GUARANTEE. —2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22

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¹IN HIM YOU ALSO, WHEN YOU HEARD THE WORD OF TRUTH,
THE GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION, AND BELIEVED IN HIM,
WERE SEALED WITH THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT,

-.011.tiff

¹⁴WHO IS THE GUARANTEE OF OUR INHERITANCE
UNTIL WE ACQUIRE POSSESSION OF IT,
TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY. —EPHESIANS 1:13-14

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3. THE AIM

2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-9

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⁶SO WE ARE ALWAYS OF GOOD COURAGE, WE KNOW THAT WHILE WE ARE AT HOME IN THE BODY WE ARE AWAY FROM THE LORD, ⁷FOR WE WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT.

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⁸YES, WE ARE OF GOOD COURAGE, AND WE WOULD RATHER BE AWAY FROM THE BODY AND AT HOME WITH THE LORD. ⁹SO WHETHER WE ARE AT HOME OR AWAY, WE MAKE IT OUR AIM TO PLEASE HIM. —2 COR. 5:6-9

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WHAT PLEASERS GOD?

• RECEIVING HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST

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...AND BEHOLD, A VOICE FROM HEAVEN SAID, "THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED."
—MATTHEW 3:17

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¹⁴FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. ¹⁷FOR GOD DID NOT SEND HIS SON INTO THE WORLD TO CONDEMN THE WORLD, BUT IN ORDER THAT THE WORLD MIGHT BE SAVED THROUGH HIM. ¹⁸WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM IS NOT CONDEMNED, BUT WHOEVER DOES NOT BELIEVE IS CONDEMNED ALREADY, BECAUSE HE HAS NOT BELIEVED IN THE NAME OF THE ONLY SON OF GOD... ³⁵THE FATHER LOVES THE SON AND HAS GIVEN ALL THINGS INTO HIS HAND. ³⁶WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THE SON HAS ETERNAL LIFE; WHOEVER DOES NOT OBEY THE SON SHALL NOT SEE LIFE, BUT THE WRATH OF GOD REMAINS ON HIM. —JOHN 3:16-18, 35-36

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WHAT PLEASURES GOD?

• WALKING BY FAITH
2 CORINTHIANS 5:7

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AND WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM, FOR WHOEVER
WOULD DRAW NEAR TO GOD MUST BELIEVE THAT HE EXISTS
AND THAT HE REWARDS THOSE WHO SEEK HIM. —HEBREWS 11:6

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WHAT PLEASURES GOD?

• YIELDING TO THE SPIRIT'S GUIDANCE

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⁷FOR THE MIND THAT IS SET ON THE FLESH IS HOSTILE TO GOD,
FOR IT DOES NOT SUBMIT TO GOD'S LAW; INDEED, IT CANNOT.
⁸THOSE WHO ARE IN THE FLESH CANNOT PLEASE GOD.

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¹YOU, HOWEVER, ARE NOT IN THE FLESH BUT IN THE SPIRIT, IF IN
FACT THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLS IN YOU. ANYONE WHO DOES NOT
HAVE THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST DOES NOT BELONG TO HIM. —ROMANS 8:7-9

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WHAT PLEASURES GOD?

• PURSUING A LIFE OF HOLINESS

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1FINALLY, THEN, BROTHERS, WE ASK AND URGE YOU IN THE LORD JESUS, THAT AS YOU RECEIVED FROM US HOW YOU OUGHT TO WALK AND TO PLEASE GOD, JUST AS YOU ARE DOING, THAT YOU DO SO MORE AND MORE. 2FOR YOU KNOW WHAT INSTRUCTIONS WE GAVE YOU THROUGH THE LORD JESUS. 3FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD, YOUR SANCTIFICATION: THAT YOU ABSTAIN FROM SEXUAL IMMORALITY; 4THAT EACH ONE OF YOU KNOW HOW TO CONTROL HIS OWN BODY IN HOLINESS AND HONOR.
—1 THESSALONIANS 4:1-4

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WHAT PLEASURES GOD?

• PRIORITIZING GENEROSITY

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DO NOT NEGLECT TO DO GOOD AND TO SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE, FOR SUCH SACRIFICES ARE PLEASING TO GOD.
—HEBREWS 13:16

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WHAT PLEASURES GOD?

• MAKING DISCIPLES

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3AND WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD FROM ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MANY WITNESSES ENTRUST TO FAITHFUL MEN, WHO WILL BE ABLE TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO.

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3SHARE IN SUFFERING AS A GOOD SOLDIER OF CHRIST JESUS. 4NO SOLDIER GETS ENTANGLED IN CIVILIAN PURSUITS, SINCE HIS AIM IS TO PLEASE THE ONE WHO ENLISTED HIM. —2 TIMOTHY 2:2-4

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WHAT PLEASES GOD?

• EXPRESSING AUTHENTIC REPENTANCE

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"FOR YOU WILL NOT DELIGHT IN SACRIFICE,
OR I WOULD GIVE IT;
YOU WILL NOT BE PLEASED WITH A BURNT OFFERING.

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THE SACRIFICES OF GOD ARE A BROKEN SPIRIT;
A BROKEN AND CONTRITE HEART, O GOD,
YOU WILL NOT DESPISE. —PSALM 51:16-17

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"IF WE DISPLEASE GOD, DOES IT MATTER WHOM WE PLEASE?
IF WE PLEASE HIM, DOES IT MATTER WHOM WE DISPLEASE?"
—LEONARD RAVENHILL

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