

Motivated by Gain

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HOPE / GAIN / PROFIT



MOTIVATION



DISCIPLINES / ACTION

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 - We must believe of have faith in this truth. Hebrews 11:6

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“And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”

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- Man is Commanded to Pursue Eternal Profit/Reward
 - Matthew 6:19-21, 24

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¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; ²¹ for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

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 - Matthew 6:19-21, 24
- There are Eternal Consequences for Temporal Behavior

II Corinthians 5:10

“For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

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 - How we live our life will affect the quality of our eternity. II Cor 5:10
- Motive Matters
 - Matthew 6:1-16 – God accepts nothing except that which is done for him

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.

² “So when you give to the poor, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be honored by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ³ But when you give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving will be in secret; and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you.

⁵ “When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ “Whenever you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites *do*, for they neglect their appearance so that they will be noticed by men when they are fasting. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ¹⁷ But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face ¹⁸ so that your fasting will not be noticed by men, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you.

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- **Gain/Profit/Reward is a Legitimate Motivation for Serving God**
 - Matthew 19:27

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- Eternal Rewards are not Heaven or Salvation
 - 1 Cor 3:11-15

I Corinthians 3:11-15

¹¹ For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

¹² Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,¹³ each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is *to be* revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.

¹⁴ If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

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WHY MEN ARE RESISTANT TO THIS TEACHING

- NEW Teaching
 - Not Taught / Never Exposed
- UNHOLY Motivation
 - We are not called to disinterested piety
 - Selfishness vs. Self Interest
- COMPETITION Concern
 - God has Unlimited Resources
 - Ephesians 2:10
- COST is too High
 - Need to stop living for myself – Luke 9:23-24
 - Man does not want Accountability

IMPORTANCE OF EMBRACING THESE TRUTHS

- **AUTHORITY**
 - Authority → Fear → Accountability → Consequences
 - Reality of eternal accountability and consequences
- **MOTIVATION**
 - Motivation informs my actions/disciplines
- **SACRIFICIAL LIFE**
 - Giving up something of present value for something of FUTURE value
- **TETHERING**
 - Sustaining and maintaining an eternal HOPE