

Lecture 3 – The Goal of Human Life (Part II); The Motivation of the Christian Life (Part I)

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.” Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Key Terms

Image of Christ; kingdom of God; disposition of grace; human fulfillment; faith, hope, & love

Objectives

- *Briefly describe the direction in God’s plan of redemption.
- *Express the relationship between “eternal life” and the biblical Christian ethic.
- *Demonstrate the unique motivation in Christian ethics.
- *List and explain the theological virtues and their role in the Christian ethic.

The Goal of Human Life (Part II)

IV. Various Ways Scripture Presents the Goal of Human Life (cont.)

A. The glory of God

1. Philippians 1:9-11
2. II Peter 1:3-4
3. I Corinthians 10:31

B. The image of Christ

1. Romans 8:28
2. Galatians 4:19

C. The kingdom of God

1. Matthew 6:33
 - a. Preparation for the kingdom > inauguration of the kingdom > extension of the kingdom (Christ) > consummation of the kingdom

D. Eternal Life

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20
2. John 17:3
3. Eternal life is...

The Motivation of the Christian Life (The Disposition of Grace), (Part I)

I. Disposition of Grace

A. Definition of “disposition” (*habitus*)

1. How can we seek God given our natural disposition?

B. The Gospel has the power for transformation

C. The distinctive way in which we are able to seek God as our true end requires a change of disposition of our heart.

1. The glory of the Gospel is that the Holy Spirit makes this change in us.

D. Aristotle vs. the Bible

II. Theological Virtues in Christian Living – Faith, Hope, and Love

A. Holy Spirit creates in us a disposition of faith, hope, and love

B. Theological virtues are the disposition implanted in us by grace

C. Augustine

1. I Thessalonians 1:2-3

2. Romans 5:1-5
 3. I Peter 1:21-22
 4. Hebrews 6:10-12
- D. Starting point – radical change of disposition

Questions & Answers