



LET US GO ON TO PERFECTION (7) Am I Done Yet? Is it Worth It?

In this study, we have examined our need to reach for perfection as Christians. As we study the scriptures and determine what is expected of us, it can become overwhelming. Thus, we conclude by asking: 1) Am I done yet? 2) Is it worth it?

I. Am I done yet?

- a. **NO! We have much left to do. As long as there is breath we must keep on growing.** *Hebrews 10:38-39, 1 Corinthians 9:24, Acts 20:24, Luke 9:62.*
- b. **We need to endure** - (ὑπομένω, hypomenō) literally- to bear up under. To remain standing, even after trying circumstance. *Hebrews 10:36-39, 12:1-2, James 1:2-4, Matthew 10:22.*
- c. **We need to redeem our time** – *Colossians 4:5, Ephesians 5:16* – time is a valuable commodity. Wasted time results in wasted opportunities. We are stewards of the time given to us - *1 Peter 4:10*. Consider also - *Matthew 25:18, 26.*
Are we wasting our time? What if time were money? Consider *James 4:13-17*
Take it a day at a time – *Matthew 6:34* – Is God pleased with how you use your time?

II. Is it worth it? With maturity comes:

- a. **Greater appreciation of fellowship with God** – *Matthew 5:8, 1 John 1:3, 5-7*
- b. **A strengthened faith** - *2 Timothy 1:12, Psalm 37:25, 1 John 5:4*, faith - our victory
- c. **Greater ability to deal with our sins**
- d. **Greater confidence dealing with problems** – our increased wisdom helps us in this.
- e. **Greater confidence in prayer** – we KNOW God answers our prayers – *1 Peter 3:12, 1 John 5:14-15*. We know He hears. With maturity, we understand this!
 - 1) We KNOW He answers prayers because He has!
 - 2) We are better prepared to accept His answers, even when He doesn't say yes.
 - 3) We accept that He knows what is best! Cf. *Matthew 6:10, 26:39, Philippians 4:6-7.*
- f. **We avoid the judgment of the ungodly**
 - i. While not popular today, the Bible speaks of the reality of hell. *Matthew 18:8-9, 2 Peter 2:20-22* – we cannot ignore that!
 - ii. *Hell is everlasting!* *Matthew 25:46, 41; Revelation 20:10, 14-15, 21:8*
 - iii. *Hell is a place of eternal punishment* – *2 Thessalonians 1:6-9*
 - iv. The idea of such descriptions is that hell is a place we should seek to avoid at all cost! When you become a Christian you are delivered from that condemnation and if you grow and remain faithful you will not face the wrath of God. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God (*Hebrews 10:31*).
- g. **A hope of an eternal reward in heaven!**

The Bible is filled with examples of the godly who were ready to stand before God. *Hebrews 11:13-16, 2 Timothy 4:8, 2 Peter 1:11, 2 Corinthians 5:1-8*, Paul speaks of our assurance of the resurrection.

Friends, IS THIS NOT WHY WE ARE HERE? If you miss heaven, you miss all there is!

And thus, we conclude our study of going on to perfection. We see many today, who even in their old age, are miserable and hopeless. They reach their final years and as they look back, they see lives that have been wasted and they have nothing but regrets. Our goal in this study has been to encourage us not to let that happen. As we approach the gates of eternity we want to be able to look back at our spiritual journey and see that we have reached the top of the mountain. But that will ONLY happen if we are willing to strive for spiritual maturity. The spiritual rewards we just mentioned will only come when our maturity is in Him and not from some other source.

So as we asked in the title: "Are we done yet?" The answer is a resounding No! But we're getting there! So don't quit. Instead, let's get to work! See *Revelation 14:13*