

What Is Your Life's Ambition?

Bob Jennings | *illbehonest.com*

Life is brief. Moses said life is like a night's sleep. David said life is like a fading shadow. James said your life is like a vanishing vapor. And Peter says life is like the withering grass. You're on a fast one-way street never to pass this way again. In less than 100 years, it will all be over. You will likely be long gone and scarcely remembered. The funeral home and the grave are at the end of the road. Are you spending your journey wisely? Are you on the right road? What is your life's ambition? What is the real purpose of life?

You say your goal in life... is pleasures, a good time, to get all the enthusiasm you can, to eat all you can, drink all you can, shoot all the drugs you can, have all the sex you can, and laugh all you can. But look down the road. Will your life's ambition hold in the wheelchair? No. Burnout is sure. You've spent your youth and your energies. Your toes have curled, your teeth have rotted, your skin has wrinkled, and your lusts have withered like your body. What's left but a few fading memories whispering, "What was the use?" What was the use? What was the use?

The tombstone will be your stop sign and the judgment of God will display all you have done in your body like an open closet door. God says He has appointed for men to die and after this comes judgment. You say your goal in life is possessions, to accumulate all you can. But I invite you to show me the house that hasn't rotted, the car that hasn't rusted, the clothes that haven't worn out, or haven't been eaten by moths.

Many are the elderly whose estates have been reduced to a few sticks of furniture in a nursing home. Howard Hughes was one of the wealthiest and came to the end of his career holed up in a hotel room collecting his urine, eating only ice cream with fingernails like bird's claws.

What can mere things do for you when you're gaping for your last breath? The grave will even strip you of your precious wife and children. Is your goal popularity? Fame? Reputation and personal prominence? This boastful, ugly show of self-life will see the curtains too. Take a tour of the cemetery. Every town has one or two cemeteries. Where are the successful? They're there too. Truly, as someone said, "Death will always be the one signal failure of man."

And furthermore, in two or three generations, your name will be lost forever from the faceless forgotten multitudes who have gone before. And besides, to what purpose ultimately is your supposed influence for good on mankind when mankind itself will soon wink out of existence? God will surely close the world history book and burn the "Who's Who?" at the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to whom belongs the glory.

Listen, there is only one valid goal in life, to live for God and love Him supremely. Isn't He worthy of the glory? God made us for Himself and life spent for Him. And with Him is fulfillment at its best yielding righteousness, peace, and joy unspeakable. Your plans, ambitions, and wishes are but hollow idols. Throw them in the trash can. Take your splendid sins and cast them by faith on the mighty Savior trusting that He died to pay your sin debt.

Get a Bible. Saturate your mind with it and find it to be a manifesto of the mind of God - an operator's manual for your soul, a blueprint for building character, a rule book for the race of life, a roadmap to heaven. Invest everything in God Himself. He alone has eternal life. And

those in union with Him through Jesus will rise in the last day with a brand new body and live forever. Will you repent and believe? Or will you press on and perish? What does God say? All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes - meaning your possessions - the boastful pride of life, that is, your desire for popularity, is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away and also its lusts, but one who does the will of God abides forever. Make the will of God your life's ambition. Who are those who enter heaven at last? Those who do the will of God.

Jesus said: Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. Matthew 7:21