

“Laying Hold on Eternal Life”

1 Timothy 6:12

I. The Problem Involved (9-10)

A) A temptation (9)

Luke 18:18-24 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? none [is] good, save one, [that is], God. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother. And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up. Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!

Luke 12:16-21

B) A trouble (10)

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

II. The Perception Involved (11)

A) A blessed view

(But thou)

1 Corin. 6:11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

2 Corin. 5:17, 1 Timothy 1:12-14

B) A balanced view

(O man of God) John 15:5 for without me ye can do nothing

III. **The Passion Involved** (11,12)

Passionately flee (flee these things) **passionately follow** (follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness)
passionately fight (fight the good fight of faith)

The best place to see passion is in the sufferings of Jesus.

Isaiah 53:3-7 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were [our] faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he [was] wounded for our transgressions, [he was] bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace [was] upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Your passion is what you love more than your love yourself!!

IV. **The Promise Involved** (vs. 13,14)

A) **Will challenge us**

Acts 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

B) **Will Convict us**

1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

C) **Will Comfort us**

John 14:1-3 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also.

Life group questions Sunday 1/24/10 Travis Sharpe

1. Can you identify some times of your life where you were tempted to “take it easy” instead of laying hold on eternal life?
2. Do you view yourself as someone that really can go “all the way” for God?
3. Do you think that how we view ourselves really matters?
4. What is it in your life that you are most passionate about? What would the people who know you the best say that you were most passionate about?
5. In light of Isaiah 53, how passionate was Jesus about fulfilling the Father’s will to give his life for ours?
6. How often should we consider the fact that Jesus has promised us his soon return? How often DO we consider this?
7. What steps can be taken to ensure that you are “laying hold on eternal life each day?”