

Motivations & Reasons

- **To get the best we need the best:**
- **If by any means ... attain resurrection...**
- **I reckon sufferings not worthy to be compared with the glory**
- **They looked for the recompense of reward**
- **For the joy set before Him**
- **Seen and welcomed the promises**
- **Begotten again to a living hope**

A Living Hope

- *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 1 Peter 1:3-5*
- Why is it a living hope?

Promises that can Never Die

- *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. Heb 11:13-16*

These All Died in Faith but Promises Didn't

- *Died without receiving the promises,*
- *Having seen and welcomed from a distance*
- *Confessed they were strangers / exiles on earth*
- *Made it clear they seek a country of their own*
- *If thinking of country went out, they would have had opportunity to return.*
- *Desire a better country, that is a heavenly one.*
- *God not ashamed to be called their God;*
- *He has prepared a city for them.*

All These Died in Faith:

- By faith Abel offered a better sacrifice :4
- By faith Enoch was translated :5
- By faith Noah prepared an ark :7
- By faith Abraham obeyed to go. :8
- By faith Sarah – power to conceive :11
- saw, welcomed, confessed– strangers/exiles
- Seek & desire a better country of their own
- Unashamed to be their God; prepared a city
- They were motivated and it showed!

Changes Our Perspective

- Faith no longer a part of life ... It is Life
- No longer living to “get all you can”
- Now Living in Preparation
- No longer “*Vanity of Vanities*”
- Now Meaningful not Meaningless
- Treasure in Heaven
- *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*
Rom 8:18-19

The Recompense of Reward

- *By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. Heb 11:24-26*
- For Moses it made perfect sense. Greater sacrifice would have been to stay and lose.

Every Sacrifice Now Rewarded

- *So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, 30 who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time — houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions — and in the age to come, eternal life. Mk. 10:29-31*

We Now Look at the Unseen

● *Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2Cor. 4:16-18*

Motivations Compared Dead / Living

- *Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. 27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified. 1 Cor. 9:24-27*
- A Coach teaching sacrifice is respected.
- What about a Preacher?

Are we Choosing Right Examples?

- *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, Heb 12:1-2*
- *Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits." 1 Cor 15:33-34*
- We must choose our companions

Means & Motivation

- *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 2 Peter 1:2-4*

The Work & The Motivation

- But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. 2 Peter 1:5-9