

A Means to an End? Or *The* End?

Roxborough Bible Chapel

August 10, 2014

The Fundamentals...

- The end of all things is?
 - To glorify God
- As a Christian we live by faith
 - Everything we do ought to be done to the glory of God alone

Lord you've put me in this situation and I have no idea what the consequence will be, nevertheless I'll give it my all because You are worthy of my all

Why the struggle?

- Pride/self-love causes us to cling to “stuff”
 - Rather than solely on Christ
- Hard for us to say that we’ve truly surrendered all to God
 - Family, career, talents/skills, time

“... The roots of our hearts have grown down into *things*, and we dare not pull up one rootlet lest we die. Things have become necessary to us, a development never originally intended. God’s gifts now take the place of God, and the whole course of nature is upset by the monstrous substitution.”

-A.W. Tozer

Humanism...

- An outlook or system of thought attaching prime importance to human rather than divine or supernatural matters
- The end of all things is the happiness of man
 - The theme of this world
- For the Christian, doing the right things to:
 1. Enjoy a good life in heaven
 2. Enjoy a good life on earth and in heaven

To clarify...

- The purpose of all creation is to glorify God alone
 - God is the beginning and the end
 - Certainly not a means to our own end

Any happiness or joy we get from God being glorified is secondary (at most) to this greater goal

Does God care about us?

- Of course He does!
- John 3:16
- Jesus' entire life

He cares far more about our *holiness* than anything else

A different way of thinking...

- Acknowledge our sinful nature
 - Sin is more than what we do
- Allow the Holy Spirit to transform us
- Accept that we are not entitled to anything from God
- Surrender everything to God for His glory alone

God is always *The End*

The only desire of our hearts?

“Father, the only desire of my heart is that Thou wilt bring forth from this life, redeemed by the precious blood of Thy dear Son, the greatest possible glory to His peerless name. Should it be that Thou canst do this by poverty rather than wealth, failure rather than success, obscurity rather than renown, then do that which will be to the greatest possible praise of the One Who loved me and washed me in His precious blood.”

- Paris Reidhead

To God alone be the glory