

Duty of Man 3 of 3
“The Pursuit of God”
Ecc 12:6-7
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what happens in the pursuit of God.

- Intro:
1. To pursue God means we search Him out.
 2. There are places where God can be found and places where God will never be.
 3. Today, we will look at man’s pursuit for God.

I. To pursue God requires actively seeking Him

- A. “Seek the Lord while He may be found...” (**Isa 55:6a**).
1. If we are in pursuit of God we must first look in the right place. His word is the right place to begin the search
Only the Bible tells us about God:
 - a. God genuinely loves His servants (**Deut 7:7-8a, 1 Jn 4:16,19**).
 - b. He provides for those who seek Him (**Deut 7:7-9**).
 2. To pursue God is a continual action not a one time effort (**Heb 11:6**).
- B. “Call upon Him while He is near” (**Isa 55:6b**).
1. While we pursue God, He is near to us through His Word & His commands (**James 4:8a**).
 2. God is near to those who pursue Him; those who are:
 - a) reaching out with their minds through study
 - b) reaching out with their hearts through sincere prayer, worship & praise,
 - c) reaching out through their everyday faithful Christian life (**Acts 17:27-28a**).
 3. We will find that God is near and that we are learning about Him as we diligently pursue Him.

II. To pursue God requires obedience to God.

- A. Failure to obey God has a price (**Deut 1:40-45**).
1. The desire of the people (**v.40-41**)
 2. The command of God (**v.42-43**)
 3. The price of disobedience (**v.44-45**).
- B. Rewards in Obedience (**Deut 28:1a**)
1. Rewards and the heavenly home are rewards of obedience.
 2. Thus obedience is required to receive these things including eternal life. The pursuit for God clearly reveals this within His Word (**Lk 11:28, James 1:25**)

III. To pursue God means He must come first.

- A. God is not a co-pilot (**Mt 6:33**)!!
1. God is the first and most important person in our lives (**Mk 12:30**).
 2. God comes before EVERYTHING!
- B. If we pursue God we cannot do it while looking back (**Lk 9:62**).

1. When we begin our pursuit for God we cannot hold on to the traditions and ideas of the world. If we are really pursuing God then He is the most important person in our lives and so are His commands (**1 Jn 2:3-4, Mt 13:22**).
2. If God comes first, if His commands come first, if our desire is to truly know Him- then we will know Him (**1 Jn 5:20, Mt 5:6,8**)

- Conc:
1. If we are in pursuit of God we can learn of Him and know Him.
 2. Are you pursuing God? If not it's time you begin your pursuit!
 3. Full Invitation