

How Much Does the Lord Expect from Me?

Matthew 10:28-42

How Much Does the Lord Expect from Me?

- Disappointing God
 - Gen. 6:6 - “And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.”
 - 1Sam. 15:10-11 - “Now the word of the LORD came to Samuel, saying, 11 I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments.”

How Much Does the Lord Expect from Me?

- When we validate His confidence in us, He rejoices
 - Isa. 62:4-5 - “You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; For the LORD delights in you, And your land shall be married. 5 ... And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So shall your God rejoice over you.”

How Much Does the Lord Expect from Me?

- God is not self-centered. Whether we keep our word to Him or fail Him, He still loves us and takes care of us; it is not about Him
 - Matt. 5:44-45 - “But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.”
- We can conclude that whatever God wants from us, whatever He asks us to give, whatever He commands us to do, it is not about Him; it is for us and our best interest.

What Does God Want From Us?

- He put us in this world so that we would want to come to His
 - Acts 17:24-28 - “God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. 25 Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. 26 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, 27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; 28 for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, For we are also His offspring.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- He put us in this body so that we would want one like His
 - Psalm 139:13-14 - “For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- 1Cor. 6:19-20 - “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”
- 1Cor. 15:51-54 - “Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- 2Cor. 5:1-5 - “For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. 4 For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- He put us in a world where we can choose to sin or be saved, hoping we would choose to be saved
 - 1Tim. 2:3-6 - “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time”

What Does God Want From Us?

- 1Tim. 1:12-16 - “And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, 13 although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. 14 And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. 15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. 16 However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- He asks for our temporary life in this world to be given to Him so that He can give us eternal life in heaven with Him
 - Luke 9:23-24 - “Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. 24 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.”
 - Gal. 2:20 - “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”
 - Eph. 1:3-10

What Does God Want From Us?

- He asks us to glorify Him here so that He may exalt and glorify us in heaven
 - 1Cor. 10:31 - “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- 1Peter 2:12 - “Having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.”
- Psalm 37:34 - “Wait on the LORD, And keep His way, And He shall exalt you...”
- 1Peter 5:6 - “Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time”

What Does God Want From Us?

- He expects us to keep our word to Him so that His conditional promises to us can come to pass
 - When He created humankind, God had exactly the relationship He wanted with them -- a face to face relationship.
 - Since Adam and Eve fell to temptation and sin, God has been working to restore that relationship

What Does God Want From Us?

- Gen. 3:15 - "And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."
- Matt. 1:21 - "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."
- 1John 4:9 - "In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him."

What Does God Want From Us?

- The Gospel was not given to condemn us but to save us
 - John 3:16-17 - “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- 1John 2:5-6 - “But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”
- 1John 3:1-3 - “Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- Rom. 1:16-17 - “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, The just shall live by faith.”
- 1Cor. 15:1-2 - “Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you--unless you believed in vain.”

What Does God Want From Us?

- “The gospel is not a doctrine of the tongue, but of life. It cannot be grasped by reason and memory only, but it is fully understood when it possesses the whole soul and penetrates to the inner recesses of the heart.” (John Calvin)

How Much Does the Lord Expect from Me?

- God does not want anything from us for Him; what He expects from us is for us to act in our own best interest. What He wants from us -- is for us.
- God's defining characteristic is love
 - 1John 4:8 - "He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

How Much Does the Lord Expect from Me?

- The defining characteristic of His love is unselfishness manifested by His grace
- Nothing He has done for us or requires of us is for Him; it is for us.
- Don't you think it is high time we did all that He expects of us?
- Don't you think it is past time for us to stop disappointing Him by failing to meet His expectations for our own good?