

February 5, 2017

Why must I keep my eyes on Jesus?

1. The good news of Jesus was not something man created.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope, To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 1 Timothy 1:1–2 (ESV)

For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. Galatians 1:12 (ESV)

2. Taking my eyes off Jesus separates me from life with God

As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith. 1 Timothy 1:3–4 (ESV)

Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Galatians 3:2 (ESV)

Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— Galatians 3:5 (ESV)

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should

preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. Galatians 1:6–9 (ESV)

3. What takes my eyes off Jesus?

A. Spiritual speculation takes my eyes off Jesus.

Spiritual speculators in the ancient world.

1. The Book of Jubilees
2. The Biblical Antiquities.

Spiritual speculators in the modern world.

1. The Bible Code by Michael Drosin
2. The DaVinci Code by Dan Brown
3. Heaven is for Real by Todd Burpo
4. The Four Blood Moons by John Hagee
5. Extra-biblical teachings

B. Misuse of the Old Testament takes my eyes off Jesus.

Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions. 1 Timothy 1:6–7 (ESV)

Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and

whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted. 1 Timothy 1:8-11 (ESV)

The Old Testament is not a ladder up which we climb to God. It is a mirror that shows us how far short we fall from God.

Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. 1 John 3:15 (ESV)

But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Matthew 5:28 (ESV)

For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. Romans 3:20 (ESV)

4. Setting my eyes on Jesus is the only way to become a loving person.

The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 1 Timothy 1:5 (ESV)

We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19 (ESV)

Applications

1. Remember the gospel is not the opinion of men. It is the revelation of God.
2. Don't get distracted from Jesus. He is the only way to know God.
3. Focusing on Jesus makes us loving people. Focusing on anything else leaves us selfish people.

February 12 - 1 Timothy 1:12-20 - What is the gospel?
February 19 - 1 Timothy 2:1-7 - I need to pray.



1 Timothy 1:1-11
Don't Take Your
Eyes Off Jesus