

Matthew 1 – People Who Find Eternal Purpose – 4 August 2019

Introduction –

*Matthew (Levi) wrote an account of the centerpiece of God's plan for humanity. (Jesus the fulfillment)

This masterplan was put into place to bring US into an eternal relationship with Him.

*People come to know Christ from all types of backgrounds. (Some are saved later on)

Joy and I, very different

Think of the variety of Christians you know

As we look at Matt 1, we're going to talk about 3 types of people God gives eternal purpose to.

Read Vs 1-17

1. Explain the 4 Gospels each have a genealogy.
2. Explain Joseph's geneo vs Mary's geneo.

3. 1st type of person God gives eternal purpose to are those in right spiritual standing. It's not necessary to be in right worldly standing.

a. Biblical Examples

i. Isaac vs Ishmael

1. God's promise was to the son of Sarah, not Hagar

ii. David vs his brothers

1. God's blessing was to the rudy kid.

iii. Moses – 40 yrs in palace didn't help, may have hurt b/c it added pride.

1. After 40 yrs in dessert – had it right.

iv. Read I Cor 1:26-29

1. God gives purpose to those who know that without God, they are worthless. God deserves the glory.

b. Higher education is worthless if not under the control of the Spirit.

c. Exp of Ken Graves

- i. No formal education AND one of the most well-versed pastors in the Bible.
- d. You can start today, get saved.
 - i. What does it take to be in right spiritual standing with God? Agree with God.
 - 1. Give the evangelistic msg here.

Re-look at Vs 3-6

- 1. Explain about Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Bathsheba.
- 2. **2nd type of person God gives eternal purpose to is anyone, regardless of their failings.**
 - a. Your past can't stop you.
 - i. Eze 18:23 - ...no pleasure in death of wicked, but that the wicked would turn...
 - ii. When Satan reminds you of your past, just remind him of his future!
 - b. Your present temptations can't stop you if you turn away.
 - i. Temptation isn't sin.

- ii. If you're waiting for temptation to cease before serving the Lord, you'll never start.
- c. Your future shortcomings can't stop you.
 - i. God knows you're not perfectly rounded, and He'll use you anyway.
 - ii. Lots of different personality types (Passive, aggressive, task-driven, etc)
 - 1. God will take your personality and use it FOR HIS GLORY instead of self!

Read Vs 18

- 1. Explain Engagement vs Espoused
- 2. She was found with child
 - a. Joseph may have thought he had his *eternal purpose* all sorted out before THIS happened.
 - i. Have you accepted that God knows a better path and plan for your life?
 - ii. Joseph MOVIE Song – “You know better than I, I've given up the need to know why.

Read Vs 19-23

1. Vs 20 – “Son of David” – There’s a plan, there has ALWAYS been a plan.
2. Vs 22 – “...that it might be fulfilled...” – God’s plan gets revealed in steps, wait patiently.
3. Vs 21 – What is God’s plan? To SAVE the lost.
 - a. Now tell me, is God’s plan bigger and better than Joseph’s original plans?
 - b. Is God’s plan bigger and better than our plans?

Read Vs 24-25

1. Joseph believed and obeyed the Word of the Lord thru his messenger.
 - a. We don’t know if he fully understood, but we know that he obeyed.
2. **3rd type of person God gives eternal purpose to are those who are available.**
 - a. He’s a gentleman, not going to force you.

- i. Read Hosea 5:15
 - ii. Robots vs children – choose to love God.
- b. Go make yourself available whether you have all the right skills or not. God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.
 - i. Examples
 - 1. Moses – 40 yrs in palace (thought he was qualified), yet at burning bush he said he wasn't qualified while being called.
 - 2. My life – in despair, God calls, then begins to mold and change you.
- c. Availability is from a willing heart
 - i. Paul – “For the love of Christ constrain me”
 - ii. “God loves a cheerful giver” – this is much more than money!
 - iii. Fan of the Red Sox WANT to go to the game, don't have to force them.
- d. Availability means being willing to be interrupted.

- i. Most of Jesus' miracles were done when He was interrupted!
 1. Man lowered through the roof.
 2. Healed Jairus' daughter.
 3. Healed Blind Bartimaeus by Jericho.
- ii. Quick prayer about the interruption
 1. Will it glorify God; do it.
 2. Prov 3:27 – Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.

Conclusion –

Three types of people God gives eternal purpose to:

1. **The 1st type: Those in right spiritual standing**
 - a. Have you been born again?
 - i. Jesus said apart from me, you can do nothings.
 - ii. It's the difference between life/death.

- b. Are you falling into human effort or continuing in a walk of faith?
 - i. Gal 3:3 – having begun in the Spirit....
 - ii. John 15 – abide in the vine.
- 2. **The 2nd type: Anyone, regardless of failings**
 - a. Do you believe that God wants to use broken things like you, so that He gets praised?
 - b. Do you believe that no one is beyond God's love and grace?
- 3. **The 3rd type: Those who make themselves available**
 - a. What is God been telling you that you need to start believing?
 - b. Has God been gifting you for a work/ministry? Make yourself available.