

More Than Anything in the World

I. Introduction

A. Scripture teaches that we must want to please God and make it to heaven. Beyond this, though, Scripture teaches that we must want this *more than anything in the world*. **Matthew 6:33**

II. More Than Others' Praise

A. A lot of people want the praise of God, but not as much as the praise of men. To please God and make it to heaven, we must want His praise *more* than others' praise. **John 12:42-43**

III. More Than Pleasing Others

A. More generally, a lot of people want to please God, but want to please another(s) *more*. This is the opposite of what God demands. **Galatians 1:10; Acts 5:29; Matthew 10:34-37**

IV. More Than Fitting In

A. Moreover, we must want heaven *more* than we want to fit in with others while on earth. **Matthew 7:13-14; 1 Peter 4:3-4**

V. More Than One's Comfort Zone

A. A lot of people want to go to heaven, but want to stay in their comfort zone while on earth even *more*. We must want to do what's right *more* than we want what's easy. We must want a life with God *more* than we want a life of ease. **Galatians 4:16; Romans 12:11; 2 Peter 1:5**

VI. More Than Avoiding Undesirable Changes

A. A lot of people want to go to heaven, but don't want it enough to make the needed changes to go there. We must want to please God *more* than we want to avoid whatever changes He demands of us. **2 Peter 1:5-7; Acts 9:6 (22:10)**

VII. More Than Holding on To Pride

A. A lot of people want to go to heaven, but don't want it so much that they will let go of their pride to admit when they're wrong. To recognize and pursue the corrections God demands, we must want to please Him *more* than we want to "prove self right." **John 7:47-49; James 4:10**

VIII. More Than Avoiding Suffering

A. We should want to go to heaven, but the path to heaven includes suffering for Christ's sake. Thus, we must want to go to heaven *more* than we want to avoid sufferings. **2 Timothy 3:12; Revelation 2:10; Matthew 5:11-12**

IX. More Than the Pleasures of Sin

A. We must not just want to please God and be with Him in heaven; we must desire this *more* than we desire any instant gratification yielded by sin. **Hebrews 11:25; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11**

X. More Than Temporal Pursuits

A. More generally, we must want heaven *more* than we want *anything* this world can offer. Earthly pursuits, hobbies, and accomplishments must take a back seat to pleasing God. **2 Peter 3:11-13; Luke 8:14**

XI. More Than Earthly Possessions

A. This can include material possessions. We must want the spiritual riches God offers *more* than we want earthly riches. **Luke 8:14; 18:22-23; Matthew 6:19-20**

XII. Conclusion

A. May we want to please God and go to heaven *more than anything in the world*. **Matthew 16:26**