

Vision and Values - Sons not Slaves

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Key Text

Gal 4:4-6

Introduction

During the 16th Century in England, to counter the diversity of doctrine that was beginning to proliferate, a council of leading theologians was convened to determine the key statements of faith. These statements became known as the catechism. The first catechism was: What is the chief end of man? The answer: Our purpose for living is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

Our Identity

1. Who we are supersedes what we do.
 - a. God was pleased with Jesus simply because He was God's Son, rather than being a carpenter (Mark 1:9-13).
 - b. God delights over us (Psalm 18:19), in a similar manner in which a parent feels love for a new-born child.
 - c. We are tempted to think that God likes us because of what we do, but this is a common strategy that the devil employs where Satan attempts to undermine the believer's position with God. (Luke 4:1-13)
2. There is a significant difference between a son and a slave
 - a. There is a time for work and a time for celebration. A slave must work all the time, whereas a son can have the freedom to do both. (Mary and Martha, Luke 10:38-42)
 - b. God does not have favourites. The prodigal son had his father's approval all the time, Luke 15:11-32.
 - c. You cannot earn your acceptance from God, because He loves you irrespectively of what you do.

Practical Application

We are worshippers before workers and sons not slaves. Take time to worship (be with) God, rather than wondering if you had prayed enough or read the bible enough. God is your father, which makes you a child of God (Gal 4:4-6). This is your identity, rather than being based on what you do.