

A Great Sermon!

Scripture Reading: Psalm 145:1-8

This lesson is going to discuss “Great Things!” By “**great**” we mean things that are wonderful, powerful, important, preeminent, of immense value, and of tremendous intensity, amount, or size. Many passages of Scripture which contain the word “**great**” will have different Greek words, but these words all boil down to about the same meaning.

We think we have a lot of important things going on in our life. We strive to have things, to accomplish things, to avoid things, or to stop things from happening. But while we are making our own priorities, or letting others establish our priorities, we often forget about God. What has He established as important or **great**? The goodness, holiness, and power of God, the requirements of God, the warnings of God, the promises of God, the gifts of God are not considered important in most people’s life (Psalm 10:1-5; 14:1-3 cp. Proverbs 1:7).

This lesson is going to offer a brief survey of “**great**” things that all people should consider. Especially note the verses that are marked with an asterisk.

Who is God and what does He want?

The **great** God and our Savior is Jesus Christ (* **Titus 2:13**) – That is a deep and complicated statement. But it points to the **great** truth that The God of our salvation is Triune. God is the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He should have first place in our lives and thoughts. See John 1:1-17; 14:1-3,13-23; Romans 8:9-39; I John 2:20-24; Deuteronomy 6:4-5. God’s **great** commandment is for us to love Him supremely (* **Matthew 22:36-38**).

What is sin and what does it produce?

Sin is when we disobey God (I John 3:4). Sin will cause a **great** collapse / destruction in our life now and for all eternity (* **“great fall/complete destruction” Matthew 7:24-27; Luke 6:43-49**). See also Romans 6:23.

Why is it so important that God gave us His Son?

The coming of Christ to be our Lord and Savior is “good news” (which is the definition of “*Gospel*”). When Christ’s birth was announced, it was good news that would produce **great** joy (* **Luke 2:10**). Christ fulfilled all that the Scriptures said of Him. He did many **great** things (* **Mark 5:19,20**) – miraculous things to show His grace, love, and power. Christ’s coming showed

the **great** love of God to man and provided salvation from our sins (* **Ephesians 2:4-10**). We have so **great** a salvation that has delivered us from so **great** a death (* **Hebrews 2:3; II Corinthians 1:10**). Jesus Christ came to pay a **great** price for His people. They were worth everything to Him. So, He paid everything – His very life, so that we could be His forever (* **Matthew 13:45-46**). See also I Peter 1:18-19; Ephesians 5:25; I Corinthians 15:1-4; Galatians 2:20; Romans 5:6-11.

How are we to respond to God's gift of salvation?

We are to repent and believe on Jesus Christ. We are to follow Jesus as our Lord and trust His exceeding **great** and precious promises (* **II Peter 1:2-11; Hebrews 13:20-21**). We have **great** (*profound*) mysteries to pursue with our minds, hearts, and lives (***Ephesians 5:22-32; I Timothy 3:16**). We are humbled to be servants for Jesus' sake (* **Luke 9:48**). See also Mark 10:43. We are to be prayerfully involved in a **great** (*plentiful*) harvest, leading others to know and follow Jesus Christ (* **Luke 10:2**). We are surrounded by a **great** cloud of witnesses, who are watching us. Therefore, we should protect our testimony and keep our eyes on Christ, getting our strength from Him. We should be as runners that have long endurance (* **Hebrews 12:1-3**). See also I Corinthians 9:24-27; II Timothy 2:1,3-5. We are to keep our attention on the fact that Jesus Christ is coming again. His appearing will be **great** and glorious (* **Titus 2:11-14; Mark; 13:26; Luke 21:27**).

What will God do with those who reject Christ and the Gospel?

God is going to destroy the heavens and the earth with fire. It will be done with a **great** noise ("*roar*" - * **II Peter 3:10**). It is called "*the great day*" (* **Jude 1:6; Revelation 6:17**). He will righteously judge the unbelieving and ungodly at His **great** white throne (* **Revelation 20:11-15**). See also Revelation 21:8; II Thessalonians 1:6-9.

What will God do with those who receive His Son and the gift of salvation?

God will receive all those who loved Him and obeyed the Gospel of His Son. Their sins will not be judged because the Son of God has already taken their judgment upon Himself (John 3:16; 5:24; II Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 2:8-9). Rather, they will be rewarded according to their faithful service (I Corinthians 3:9-15 cp. II John 1:8. Their reward will be **great** (* "*rich*" – **Matthew 5:12; Luke 6:22-23,35; Hebrews 10:35-36**). See also Psalm 31:19; Matthew 6:19-21; James 1:12; I Thessalonians 5:9-11; II Thessalonians 1:10 cp. Romans 8:16-18.