

BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

October 10, 2021 Philippians 1:20-24 by Bob Branch
Joy Infusion, Part 6

BIG IDEA: Highlight and explore the tension between our eternal destination and living now in this world—summed it in “To live is Christ, to die is gain.”

²¹ For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² Now if I live on in the flesh, this means fruitful work for me; and I don't know which one I should choose. ²³ I am torn between the two. I long to depart and be with Christ—which is far better—²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. **Philippians 1:20-24** CSB

What does “To live is Christ” mean?

- To pursue **knowing him** and living in relationship with him here and now. John 17:3
- To give yourself fully to **his purposes**—bring the kingdom/set things right/proclaim the good news/do what the Father's doing. Lk. 19:13; Mt. 10:7-8; Jn. 5:19
- Let everything **point to Christ**—to bring Him glory/credit/fame. Mt. 5:13-16
- Put Him at the **center of everything** in life Mt. 6:33; Col. 1:15-20

HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO YOU?

1. _____ the *values* of eternity.

“Bringing up there down here is God's project.” **J. Ortberg**

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.” **Colossians 3:1-3**

“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.” **Luke 12:13–21**

“You won't spend the rest of your lives chasing your own desires, but you will be anxious to do the will of God.”
1 Peter 4:2 NLT

2. _____ today's *troubles* with eternity's mindset.

“We view our slight, short-lived troubles in the light of eternity. (won't last) We see our difficulties as the substance that produces for us an eternal, weighty glory far beyond all comparison...” **2 Corinthians 4:17** TPT

“The kingdom of God is never in trouble” **James B. Smith**

3. _____ with *eternity* in mind.

“Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith...”
Philippians 1:25

Martin Buber : I-It vs. I-Thou thisthat

“Master, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and come to see you?” 40 ‘Then the king will answer them, “I'm telling you the truth: when you did it to one of the least significant of my brothers and sisters here, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:37-40 NTE

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love. I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.” **Mother Teresa**