



“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, *along with every secret thing*, whether it is good, or whether it is evil.” Ecclesiastes 12:13 – 14

Remember, this isn't merely a man speaking. It is the words of the Spirit of God giving utterance through the pen of the writer. “All Scriptures is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” (2 Timothy 3:16).

Prepare yourself. Be ready to hear the conclusion – the final word – the bottom line – the whole of the matter. The Spirit is distilling for us the essence of our lives and our duty before God.

The final reality of life is this – broken into two easily understood laws – fear God and keep His commandments. The first, fearing God, is the necessity for all life and eternal life. To fear God is to place our trust in Him and to lean upon Him with the whole of our being. It is by this trusting faith we please Him. (Hebrews 11:6). And it is through this trusting faith that we then act out our beliefs by honouring God in the commandments. “...the life I live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me.” (Galatians 2:20).

And Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is, “Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord.” “And, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like it, namely this, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:29 – 31)

Our faith in and our love for God is the enabling motivation within our lives to do what He asks of us. It is the Holy Spirit's abiding presence that empowers us to live for Christ.

“Father, in Jesus' name, let me live out the bottom line. Fearing You in a true faith, living out quickly and obediently your Word from a heart of love. Amen.”

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