

What Does It Mean to Be Preparing Oneself for Life Eternal?

Preparing oneself for life eternal means living each day in faith, obedience, and anticipation of the promised everlasting life with God. It is not a passive waiting, but an active pursuit of godliness, repentance, spiritual growth, and perseverance.

Jesus made it clear that eternal life is not automatically granted, but is the gift for those who believe and follow Him:

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.” (John 5:24, LSB)

Preparation begins with hearing, believing, and obeying. Jesus taught the necessity of seeking the things of God first:

“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” (Matthew 6:33, LSB)

Living in preparation for eternal life also means storing up treasures in heaven, not clinging to the things of this world:

“But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal.” (Matthew 6:20, LSB)

It requires abiding in Christ daily. Jesus said:

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit from itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.” (John 15:4, LSB)

Preparation involves growing in holiness and resisting sin. Paul exhorts:

“Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” (2 Corinthians 7:1, LSB)

It also requires perseverance. Jesus said:

“But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.” (Matthew 24:13, LSB)

A Christian preparing for eternal life practices love, faith, service, repentance, and trust. Eternal life is not merely about living forever; it is about living in perfect relationship with God.

Jesus promised:

“In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you.” (John 14:2, LSB)

Therefore, believers live not for this world, but for the world to come, walking daily with Christ, growing in His likeness, and eagerly anticipating the day of resurrection and eternal fellowship with God.

Referenced Scriptures (LSB):

- John 5:24 — “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”
- Matthew 6:33 — “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”
- Matthew 6:20 — “But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal.”
- John 15:4 — “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit from itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.”
- 2 Corinthians 7:1 — “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”
- Matthew 24:13 — “But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.”
- John 14:2 — “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you.”