

"Have To" or "Want To"?

Today's Reading

Psalm 62:1-12

Friday is my day off. Sometimes people ask me what my plans are for that day. Although there are often things that need to be accomplished, the main thing on my "to do list" each Friday is to hang out with Celeste, my wife. My primary objective is to be with her. I suppose there are different reasons that might motivate me to spend time with her. I could do so out of a "have to" rationale. I mean, I am her husband. She does lots for me, it is only right that I show her a bit of attention. I guess I should spend time with her. That could be my motivation.

You lady readers will be relieved to know, however, that I am not ultimately motivated by that kind of reasoning. Instead of "have to" motivation, I am prompted by my internal "want to." You see, I have come to realize that my life is richer; my joy is deeper when I spend time with her.

Those same realizations motivate followers of Christ to spend time with Him. David knew that full well and he expressed it clearly in Psalm 62. You see, there are things that you will exclusively experience in relationship with "God alone." He is the only One who offers true rest for the soul (vv. 1a, 5a). He is the only source of

salvation (vv. 1b, 6a). He is a rock of stability in an otherwise unstable world (vv. 2a, 6a). He is a protective fortress when the enemy attacks (v. 2b, 6b). He is your hope (v. 5a). Those great realities should move us from "have to" to "want to" motivation.



By the way, I feel compelled to tell you that Friday isn't the only day that I carve out time with Celeste. It may represent the most concentrated time, but no day is a good day unless I have spent time with her in conversation. In like manner, you and I need to be careful not to allow Sunday (or any other single day) to become the sum total of our valued time with the Lord. Hang out with the great Creator daily!