

situation and in that situation there are influences that give us opportunities, influences that give us an incentive to move forward in one direction or another. There are opportunities, there are hindrances, and all of these we have received. We have nothing to do with the particular genes we have. We have nothing to do with the particular environment in which God has placed us.

This might lead us to a position taken by many today that everything is just part of a machine, and there is nothing you can do about it. But everyone knows in his heart that he can do something. He may not do much, but you can decide whether you are going to study your Hebrew, or watch TV. You can decide whether you are going to get your assignments soon after they are given or wait until the last minute. You can make these decisions. God has given you an eternal spirit, and as Paul said earlier in this chapter, it is required of those who have been given a trust that they must prove faithful.

God has put each of us here to accomplish certain things for Him. If we sit back for fear of what people will think, or whether we are fearful of making a failure of something so we don't try, we are unfaithful. God puts us here with opportunities, with needs before us. He's given us certain abilities, and we don't know thoroughly what the abilities are He's given us, but he wants us to be faithful and to step out to accomplish for Him.

For everyone of us here there are people who if we speak to them about the Lord, they will receive it into their hearts when perhaps no one else could reach them. Everyone of us has particular gifts, particular ways in which God can and will use us and if we'll take what he's given us and do our best to use it for His glory (He will ~~xxx~~ bless us). Everyone one of us God can use and desires to use and that is why He has given our particular spirit the use of a particular body with particular genes and given us an upbringing and a background and a present situation such as He has given us now.

So the man who sits back and thinks only of the next step or of his natural pleasures of the thing that he to this body, he is not being faithful, he is not doing what God put him here to do. We should not boast about all the things we've accomplished. We should not feel bad if we don't accomplish much if we are faithfully endeavoring because God--what God has given us we have received so much. But He desires us to be faithful and who knows what he may accomplish through each of us if we truly are faithful.

But in spite of our best efforts some of us may be disappointed in what we accomplish. Some of us will have very great disappointments. We may get all trained and prepared for a certain task and the opportunities close. We may get all ready to carry on in a certain situation, and then we're struck with a mortal illness.