

It is in my opinion a tremendous book. But the thing that impressed me in this book perhaps as much as anything in it was his statement of the realization that had come to him from reading C. S. Lewis that C. S. Lewis had said, No nation is as important as an individual. The nation may last two or three centuries, maybe longer, very few last longer than three or four without changing so completely that they seem to be really a different nation altogether. But a human being is immortal. A nation may disappear and be just simply a fact of ancient history. But the individual goes on and on. God wants us to do the best we can for our nation. But God wants us to realize that every individual with whom we come in contact is actually more important than any nation on the face of the earth. Because that nation will disappear and that's the end of it, except perhaps a few notes in the history book.

But the individual soul after it leaves this wonderful machine that God lends us for a few years, that soul goes on and on and on throughout eternity. So it makes it all the more important we realize it for ourselves in the context we are here in this life, What are we doing? Are we building up fruits for our own pleasure? Are we building up things we think are going to last? Are we even accomplishing great works for God we think are going to last? Or are we striving to make our life here a true preparation for the years ahead. And are we striving to help others to make their lives here a true preparation for the centuries ahead. Are we building up fruit we will have to leave here? and that will disappear when God takes us from this earth? Or are we building up fruit that will last through all eternity? May God enable us each one to realize that one of these days the Lord is going to say to us, Thou fool this night is thy soul required of thee. Then we look back and we'll say, What have we done? Oh, it wasn't fair the way this person went way ahead of me! He succeeded in so much and I didn't get much recognition. Awful! Maybe that was God's will for you. God has lessons for you. You struggle, you work, and you don't get much accomplished. It seems somebody with half the effort seems to accomplish twice as much. Perhaps God has lessons to give you in it. Perhaps He has a reason for it in your life. In everything give thanks because God is controlling every aspect of our lives if we have received Jesus Christ as Saviour. And God has a purpose in all that comes into our lives. e has a purpose in all our contacts with others.

When we come to that day when He takes our soul from this particular existence into whatever He has planned for our later destiny, when He comes to that day, may we be able to see fruit unto life eternal He has enabled us to produce. Fruit in our own lives, as Paul describes it. Fruit of the Spirit. And fruit in souls brought to the knowledge of the Christ. And in Christians who have grown in grace because of the way we have helped them to.

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