**[What part of the Bible should I read to really understand who I am and what I was created for?](https://www.quora.com/q/giojtzcmrpbtlecd/What-part-of-the-Bible-should-I-read-to-really-understand-who-I-am-and-what-I-was-created-for%22%20%5Ct%20%22_top)**



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This strikes me as a “destiny” question and it’s very interesting. The answer to it, based on the way the question was asked, is elusive: “**What part of the Bible should I read to really understand who I am and what I was created for?”** If asked another way, the answer is even more interesting: **“According to the Bible, who am I and what was I created for?”** The Bible doesn’t have a part or a passage that you can read and fully grasp the marvelous plan God has for mankind that Peter says even the angels long to see:

*God revealed to the prophets that their ministry was not for their own benefit but for yours. And now, you have heard these things from the evangelists who preached the gospel to you through the power of the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—the gospel containing wonderful mysteries that even the angels long to get a glimpse of. — 1 Peter 1:12 TPT*

The reason our destinies are elusive is not a mistake or an oversight — it’s by design. Here is what John said about it:

*Beloved, we are God’s children right now; however, it is not yet apparent what we will become. But we do know that when it is finally made visible, we will be just like him, for we will see him as he truly is. — 1 John 3:2 TPT*

These passages are like teasers, whetting our appetites for spiritual inquiry. Our destinies are achieved through cooperation with God. God offers us his highest and best; we choose to settle where we are comfortable. Some of us catch wind of what God is offering us and we become obsessed, like Paul:

*I admit that I haven’t yet acquired the absolute fullness that I’m pursuing, but I run with passion into his abundance so that I may reach the purpose that Jesus Christ has called me to fulfill and wants me to discover. I don’t depend on my own strength to accomplish this; however I do have one compelling focus: I forget all of the past as I fasten my heart to the future instead. I run straight for the divine invitation of reaching the heavenly goal and gaining the victory-prize through the anointing of Jesus. So let all who are fully mature have this same passion, and if anyone is not yet gripped by these desires, God will reveal it to them. And let us all advance together to reach this victory-prize, following one path with one passion. — Philippians 3:12–16 TPT*

Clearly, Peter, John, and Paul were on to something concerning our destinies as Christians, but there is also a hint that not everyone will win their race:

*Isn’t it obvious that all runners on the racetrack keep on running to win, but only one receives the victor’s prize? Yet each one of you must run the race to be victorious. A true athlete will be disciplined in every respect, practicing constant self-control in order to win a laurel wreath that quickly withers. But we run our race to win a victor’s crown that will last forever. For that reason, I don’t run just for exercise or box like one throwing aimless punches, but I train like a champion athlete. I subdue my body and get it under my control, so that after preaching the good news to others I myself won’t be disqualified. — 1 Corinthians 9:24–27 TPT*

Well then, now that we know we’re in a race, we ought to figure out where the race track is and which direction we should run and what rules we should be adhering to. All around us we see people feverishly pursuing false destinies — seeking prosperity, pedigree, and position — but none of these things are what God is calling us to. It isn’t important to God whether you are a pauper, plumber, preacher, or politician. What matters to Him is who you are. He is “I am.” Who are you? He invites us to join Him in the great “I am” but we don’t have to — we can choose something lesser.

The Bible vividly describes who we are and who we can become from Genesis to Revelation and it’s fascinating. I’ve been quietly pondering and studying this since I was in my twenties and I’m almost sixty now — I can truly say that not a day goes by that I don’t think about it with wonder. For those intrepid souls who can endure a long post, I will share a bit more of what has captivated my imagination for almost forty years.

Destiny involves two things: 1) Being and 2) Doing. The Bible describes *seven unique states of being*, or “positions” we may occupy within the Kingdom of God as revealed by their core motivations. And, not coincidentally, the Bible describes seven things *we must Do with all our hearts* — and these two must harmonize. Further, again not coincidentally, there are seven rewards promised to the victors in this great race detailed at the end of each of the seven letters to the seven churches in the second and third chapters of the Book of the Revelation.

Here are the Positions, Motivations, What they Must Do, and their Rewards:

1. **Slaves & Bond Servants**

* Key scriptures describing the position:
	+ *…people are slaves to whatever has mastered them. — 2 Peter 2:19 NIV*
	+ *For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. — 1 Corinthians 7:22 ESV*
* **Core Motivations**, positive and negative: **Freedom/Escape**
* **What they must do** with all their hearts:
	+ **Seek the Lord**: *You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.— Jeremiah 29:13 NAS*
* **Reward to Victors**: *To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.’ — Revelation 2:7 NAS*

2. **Hirelings**

* Key scriptures describing the position:
	+ The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. — John 10:13 KJV
	+ As a servant earnestly desireth the shadow, and as a hireling looketh for the reward of his work: — Job 7:2 KJV
* **Core Motivations**, positive and negative: **Reward/Entitlement**
* **What they must do** with all their hearts:
	+ **Obey the Lord**:*This day the LORD your God commands you to do these statutes and ordinances. You shall therefore be careful to do them with all your heart and with all your soul. — Deuteronomy 26:16 NAS*
* **Reward to Victors**: *He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.’ — Revelation 2:11 NAS*

3. **Servants & Stewards**

* Key scriptures describing the position:
	+ *When ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do. — Luke 17:10 KJV*
	+ *His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. — Matthew 25:21 KJV*
* **Core Motivations**, positive and negative: **Duty/Negligence**
* **What they must do** with all their hearts:
	+ **Serve the Lord**: *"Only fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you. — 1Samuel 12:24 NAS*
* **Reward to Victors**:
	+ *To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.' — Revelation 2:17 NAS*

4. **Brothers & Sisters**

* Key scriptures describing the position:
	+ *A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. — Proverbs 17:17 KJV*
	+ *…there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. — Proverbs18:24 KJV*
	+ *Cain & Able, Jacob & Esau, Joseph & Brothers…*
* **Core Motivations**, positive and negative: **Competence/Cheating**
* **What they must do** with all their hearts:
	+ ***Return to the Lord****: "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "Return to Me with all your heart, And with fasting, weeping and mourning; — Joel 2:12 NAS*
* **Reward to Victors**: *He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him will I give authority over the nations, and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to pieces, as I also have received authority from My Father; and I will give him the morning star. — Revelation 2:26-28 NAS*

5. **Friends**

* Key scriptures describing the position:
	+ *Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. — John 15:15 KJV*
	+ *At the Home of Martha and Mary — Luke 10:38-42*
	+ *Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise, also said all the disciples. — Matthew 26:35 KJV*
* **Core Motivations**, positive and negative: **Loyalty/Betrayal**
* **What they must do** with all their hearts:
	+ **Trust in the Lord**: *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. — Proverbs 3:5 NAS*
* ***Reward to Victors****: …they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. ‘He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. — Revelation 3:4-5 NAS*

6. **Heirs, Sons & Daughters**

* Key scriptures describing the position:
	+ *He that delicately bringeth up his servant from a child shall have him become his son at the length, — Proverbs 29:21 KJV*
	+ *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, — John 1:12 ESV*
	+ *Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. — Galatians 4:7 KJV*
	+ *The Parable of the Two Sons — Matthew 21:28-32*
	+ *The Parable of the Prodigal Son — Luke 15:11-32*
	+ *O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt. — Matthew 26:39 KJV*
* **Core Motivations**, positive and negative: **Honor/Rebellion**
* **What they must do** with all their hearts:
	+ **Rejoice in the Lord**: *Shout for joy, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! — Zephaniah 3:14 NAS*
* **Reward to Victors**: *He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name. — Revelation 3:12 NAS*

7. **Co-Rulers Kings & Queens**

* Key scriptures describing the position:
	+ *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. — 1 Corinthians 2:9 KJV*
	+ *And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. — Romans 8:17 KJV*
	+ *The Parable of the Rich Ruler — Matthew 19:16-30; Mark 10:17-31*
	+ *Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? — Matthew 26:53 ESV*
	+ *They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, “You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory…” — Revelation 4:10 ESV*
* **Core Motivations**, positive and negative: **Surrender/Control**
* **What they must do** with all their hearts:
	+ **Love the Lord**: *And He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ — Matthew 22:37 NAS*
* **Reward to Victors**: *He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. — Revelation 3:21 NAS*

So, there is a profound framework, a matrix, a community of intertwined destinies of men and women that make up the Kingdom of God. The passage from one position to another is a fascinating subject to study as well. It’s clear that each promotion has a price corresponding to the reward. To progress further in and higher up in the Kingdom of God, you must want it and ask for it — and you really don’t fully understand what you’re getting into — look at what Jesus said to the two disciples who requested to sit next to Jesus in heaven (Kingship):

*“What is it you’re wanting me to do?” he asked.*

*“We want to sit next to you when you come into your glory,” they said, “one at your right hand and the other at your left.”*

*Jesus said to them, “You don’t have a clue what you’re asking for! Are you prepared to drink from the cup of suffering that I am about to drink? And are you able to endure the baptism into death that I am about to experience?”*

*They replied, “Yes, we are able.”*

*Jesus said to them, “You will certainly drink from the cup of my sufferings and be immersed into my death, but to have you sit in the position of highest honor is not mine to decide. It is reserved for those whom grace has prepared them to have it.” — Mark 10:36–40 TPT*