

# Do Not Be Concerned About Outward Things

by Thomas a Kempis

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*Thomas a Kempis teaches that it is more profitable to focus on our relationship with God and ignore outward things that distract us from our spiritual well-being.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 16:26, Romans 12:2, Galatians 2:20, Colossians 3:2, 1 Timothy 6:6

**Topics:** "Spiritual Focus", "Eternal Priorities"

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## Description

Thomas a Kempis preaches about the importance of focusing on eternal matters and turning away from worldly distractions. He emphasizes the need to consider oneself dead to the world and to prioritize peace and spiritual well-being over quarrelsome discussions. Kempis highlights the tendency of humans to fret over temporal losses while neglecting the salvation of their souls, urging a withdrawal from excessive focus on outward things to avoid being immersed in superficial concerns.

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## Transcript

### THE VOICE OF CHRIST

MY CHILD, there are many matters of which it is well for you to be ignorant, and to consider yourself as one who is dead upon the earth and to whom the whole world is crucified. There are many things, too, which it is well to pass by with a deaf ear, thinking, instead, of what is more to your peace. It is more profitable to turn away from things which displease you and to leave to every man his own opinion than to take part in quarrelsome talk. If you stand well with God and look to His judgment, you will more easily bear being worsted.

### THE DISCIPLE

To what have we come, Lord? Behold, we bewail a temporal loss. We labor and fret for a small gain, while loss of the soul is forgotten and scarcely ever returns to mind. That which is of little or no value claims our attention, whereas that which is of highest necessity is neglected -- all because man gives himself wholly to outward things. And unless he withdraws himself quickly, he willingly lies immersed in externals.

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