

Philosophy Inspiration



John Chrysostom Excerpts

One common theme in the writings of the Church Fathers is a keen awareness that eternal, heavenly things are infinitely greater than temporary, earthly ones. Here we will examine how this issue is addressed by John Chrysostom (c. 347-407 AD), framed by three questions all Christians must contend with:

*What should
hold our
attention?*

*Where should
we place our
worth?*

*Who are the
truly blessed?*

Reading & Discussion

[3 Excerpts to Read– Click Here](#)

- *Before Reading:* Compare how these questions may be answered from the perspective of a Christian and the perspective of a non-Christian.
- *During Reading:* How does Chrysostom build his arguments? What kind of language does he use, and how does this affect the audience?
- *After Reading:* What is the place of “earthly” entertainment, conversation, etc. for the Christian life? What is the place of wealth? Does Chrysostom overstate its danger? How should we respond to his ideas as members of the wealthiest society in history?