



## [Proverbs 29:18](#)

(18) Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint;  
but blessed is he who keeps the law.

*New International Version*

*The Living Bible* paraphrases the first phrase, "Where there is ignorance of [God](#) the people run wild." For us, that ignorance is gone because of God's calling. We have a prophetic vision, and we discipline ourselves to restrain human nature, to keep it from exercising its will. Thus, we are now governing ourselves as a normal part of life. This has to be, or we will not be prepared for God's Kingdom. We must do as Christ did.

We need to be a people with a sharp vision of where we are headed in life. [The gospel](#) tells us why we were born and provides us with detailed knowledge on how to prepare for that goal. The relationship with our God frames these elements into a vision that becomes our goal in life and helps to motivate us to do what is good in God's sight.

[Hebrews 11:10](#) says that [Abraham](#) "waited for the city . . . whose Builder and Maker is God." This was a major part of his motivating vision. [Hebrews 11:27](#) tells us that [Moses](#) "endured as seeing Him who is invisible." These men followed the vision that formed as a result of their [relationship with God](#) and what He taught them. As we walk with Christ, we are led along similar paths.

They believed thrillingly good news that provided them with the motivation to submit their lives to God's will. [1 Corinthians 9:24-27](#) shows us Paul's example of what every person who has achieved a great goal has had to learn and do:

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I

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discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

Those who achieve must be focused on a goal to a degree given to no other area of life. They must be determined, disciplined, and sacrificial enough to become exceptionally skilled at what they [hope](#) to achieve.

However, regarding what we hope to achieve in becoming part of the [Kingdom of God](#), even going all out is not enough! We cannot achieve our goal without [Jesus Christ](#), our sovereign God, Creator, Savior, and High Priest, by whom we are saved because He is alive and oversees our lives. He supplies every need for [salvation](#) and sustains us along the way. Salvation is absolutely, totally impossible without help from Him.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

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[Fully Accepting God's Sovereignty \(Part Four\)](#)

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