

# Forever – Why You Can't Live Without It.

By Paul David Tripp

## **Introduction – The Evidence is Everywhere**

*We “live as an eternity amnesiac. [We] often live with the unrealistic expectations and functional hopelessness that always results when you tell yourself that this life you have right here right now, is all there is.” p. 13*

*“What if this present life is not a destination but a preparation for a final destination? ... What if human beings were created to live forever?” p. 14*

1. Have you ever spent time imagining what living forever would be like? Take some time now to do that. Start by just thinking of living 500 years, then maybe 1000 years, 2000 years, 10,000 years. Now you are past the known history of mankind, now continue into forever. Did this exercise inspire any new thoughts on how you live today?
2. Do you agree that “thinking of this life as preparation for your final destination would change the way you live day by day”? In what ways would it change your day to day living?

## **Chapter 1 – Who Stole Forever?**

*“No matter who you are, where you are, and how old you are, you long for a perfect world and struggle with the fact that the address where you live is anything but perfect.” p. 15*

*“We were created to live in a perfect world where death didn't exist and where life would give way to life on into eternity. So we hope much, dream much, imagine much, groan much, sorrow much, & cry much.” p. 15*

*“We have forever inside us and it creates a natural disappointment with the brokenness of the here and now.” p. 16 “So much of your distress at what is, is really a hunger for what will be, ... this longing for paradise is an essential part of what makes you human.” p. 19*

*“We have eternity amnesia and consequently our lives are much more difficult than they need to be.” p. 24 “Now was designed to be an introduction to hereafter, and hereafter was designed to be the living hope of now.” p. 27*

1. Memorize Romans 8:18 ***For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.***
2. Find 2-3 other scripture passages that demonstrate this theme about the shortness of life and/or the glory of our eternal hope.
3. Do you sometimes struggle with feelings of guilt over your being sad, disappointed, unhappy in your life. How does this chapter address those feelings?
4. Which of the 8 consequences of eternity amnesia strike closest to home for you? Why?