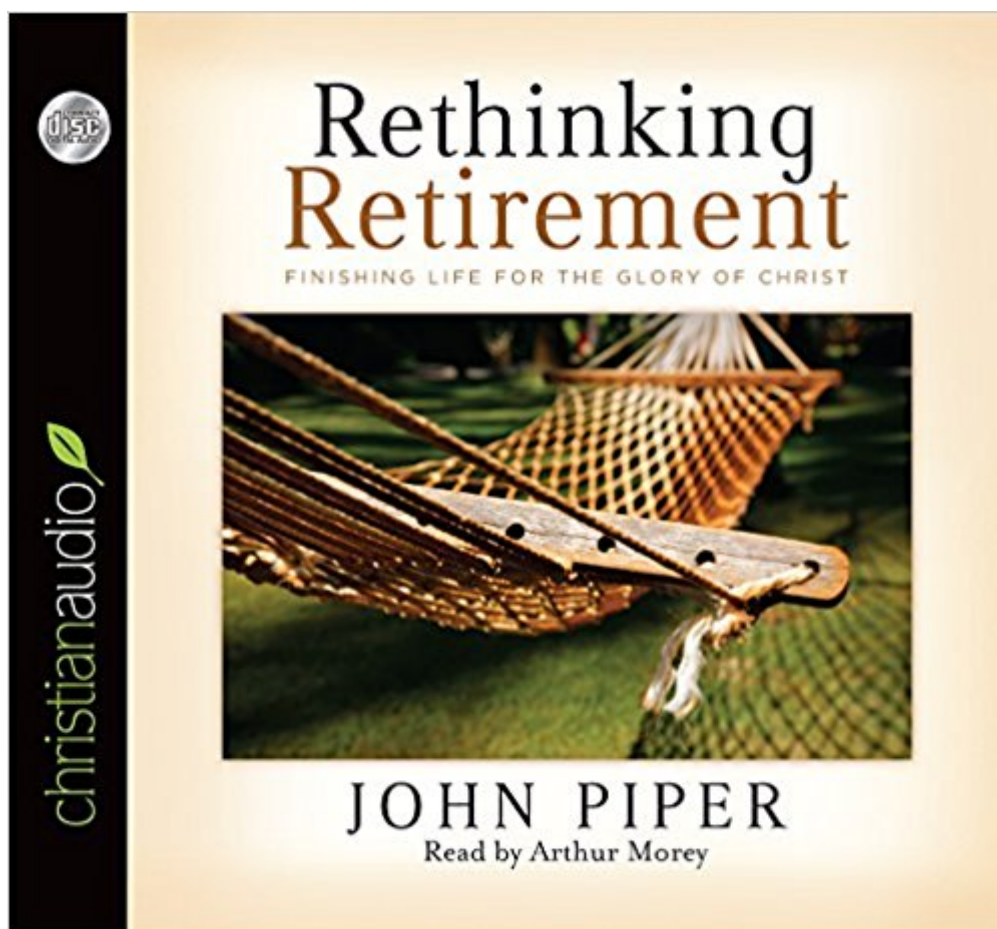


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Rethinking Retirement: Finishing Life For The Glory Of Christ



Synopsis

John Piper challenges fellow baby boomers to forego the American dream of retirement and live out their golden years with a far greater purpose in mind. They say it's a person's reward for all those years of labor. "Turn in your time card and trade in your IRAs. Let travel plans and golf-course leisure lead the way." But is retirement really the ideal? Or is it a series of poor options that ignore a greater purpose-and will kill a person more quickly than old age? John Piper responds, "Lord, spare me this curse!" And his resounding message is for anyone who believes there's far more to the golden years than accumulating comforts. It's for readers who long to finish better than they started, persevere for the right reasons (and without fear), experience true security, value what lies beyond their cravings, and live dangerously for the One who gave his life in his prime. With this brief book, Piper is sure to spur fellow baby boomers in their resolve to invest themselves in the sacrifices of love-and to grow old with godly zeal.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

JOHN PIPER is pastor for preaching and vision at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis. His many books include *Don't Waste Your Life* and *Fifty Reasons Why Jesus Came to Die*.

Warmly pastoral. Responsibly Pithy. Tactfully polemic. Joyfully profound. As *Five Points* shows us, these truths can be presented in different ways. Some use the acronym TULIP. Timothy George prefers ROSES, and John Piper uses a different order, but these doctrines are fragrant flowers no matter what they're named. Here are a few of my favorite bits from

this helpful, little book. “The more you know him, the more you want to know him. The more you feast on his fellowship, the hungrier you are for deeper, richer communion. Satisfaction at the deepest levels breeds a holy longing for the time when we will have the very power of God to love God.” My experience is that clear knowledge of God from the Bible is the kindling that sustains the fires of affection for God. “The perseverance of the saints is not the guarantee of perfection, but rather that God will keep us fighting the fight of faith so that we hate our sin and never make any lasting peace with it.” I also enjoyed Jonathan Edwards on tasting honey, George Mueller on his experience with these doctrines and J.I. Packer’s appeal.

This is a lucid and succinct treatment of doctrines about which countless books have been written. And all delivered in the fireside-like pastoral way I’ve come to expect from John Piper. With him you sit down as with an old friend, and talk of great things, and savor the Greatest One. Besides the length, which was great for an afternoon read or two, I appreciated the listing of the major texts supporting each doctrine within the chapters, and the citation of doctors of the church in distant past and more recent centuries on the centrality of these doctrines to faith and practice and the general interpretation of the unity of the whole of scripture. I personally remember first wrestling with these truths in college as I delved deeper into the core beliefs of the faith in which I was raised, but in which I had only recently been included by the Sovereign grace of God himself, at his very set time. Tellingly, in understanding the grace and glory of the sovereign Lord at the heart of the whole of scripture, the rest of my Bible study has been thoroughly empowered and uniquely clarified up to the present time. I would wholeheartedly recommend this for use with the laity as well as for supplementing more intense academic reading.

As a 60+ Boomer with one more young child, a realistic look at our country’s economic situation has me convinced that retirement won’t be an option for me. Even though I enjoy my profession (most of the time) there are days when I long to be doing something that will have more impact but also feel great uncertainty about how I could then provide for my family. John Piper succinctly reminds me about the promises of God and His faithfulness. He provides historical examples of believers who trusted God into old age and delighted in Christ as we all should at every stage of life. Piper gives a challenge, but not specifics. Clearly it’s up to me to still pray diligently to know God’s will for these times and to feel the urgency to follow where He leads.

Be prepared that this CD is only 35 minutes long. Also the title and description of the CD are

misleading, as the talk is very minimally about retirement. The focus and content is primarily about "Fear of Losing One's Salvation" before death. Altogether, the CD is very disappointing and I felt it was a waste of my time and money.

John Pipers little books are full of profound wisdom. This one encourages us to stay productive with volunteer work in retirement years. Good ideas.

An excellent word of advice for every person seeking to live "the American dream." Don't be a fool, only what's done for Christ will last.

One of the biggest misconceptions among Christians is that "Calvinism" presents a cold, heartless God Who arbitrarily chooses people to save while condemning others. FIVE POINTS paints an entirely different picture: a gracious, merciful God Who extends His saving grace freely to all while choosing to redeem a remnant for His glory. Nobody gets dragged kicking and screaming into Heaven and nobody who truly wants to know God gets left out. Pastor John skillfully navigates each point while giving both Scriptural and anecdotal evidence, taking an infinite complex subject and breaking it down into something we can (almost) understand.

A great intro or review for those that are wanting to understand the Five Points. I bought it as a resource while teaching Romans, and really only used it for the "I" in TULIP, but I found it to be helpful. It is a very short book written for anyone to understand. I will keep it on the shelf for future reference.

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