

# 90 MINUTES BETWEEN THE LINES





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Regarded as one of the greatest soccer players of all time, Edson Arantes do Nascimento, **best known as Pelé**, achieved soccer glory playing 90 minutes between the lines. He is famous for winning three World Cup titles and holds a Guinness World Record for scoring 1,279 goals in 1,363 games in 65 countries. Pelé passed away in 2022.

**Pelé knew life was more than a game, but he also thought life was like a game. He once said:**

*“Everything on earth is a game.  
A passing thing. We all end up dead.  
We all end up the same, don’t we?”*

## **THE BIBLE ALSO COMPARES LIFE TO ATHLETICS**

*“Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air.”*

— 1 CORINTHIANS 9: 25-26

**Imagine that your life is like soccer, in your game of life you only have 90 minutes between the lines of birth and death.**

**How will you compete? How will you make the most of your 90 minutes?**

# 1. GOD LOVES YOU

and offers the game plan for experiencing true victory in your 90 minutes.

## GOD'S LOVE

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” — JOHN 3:16*

## GOD'S PLAN

Unlike soccer, God's game plan is not based on our performance. Instead, we are valued based on God's love and grace by what He has done for us.

*“And this is eternal life, that they know You, the only true God, and **Jesus Christ whom You have sent.** ” — JOHN 17:3*

**In soccer, Pele's skill and achievements provide a standard of athletic greatness.**

But few, if any of us, have the natural skills and ability to attain his standard.

**JESUS IS GOD'S STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE. BUT HE ALSO PROVIDES THE SOLUTION WHEN WE FALL SHORT.**

The game of life will end, no matter what people say or how incredible we are. We can choose God's game plan or ours.

**UP NEXT: WHAT PREVENTS US FROM EXPERIENCING GOD'S PLAN?**



## 2. OUR FOULS AND FAILURES

keep us from experiencing God's plan and lead to defeat in our 90 minutes.

As good as Pelé was with practice, drills, and hard work, he still made mistakes and committed fouls. Pelé could never ever play a perfect game. Like us, no matter how hard we try and how great we are, we will never live a perfect life. Likewise, we all have our fouls and failures in life, what the Bible calls sin.

**ALL FAIL  
AND FALL  
SHORT**

God's standard is perfection. That's like you making every penalty shot you've ever taken and completing every pass!

*"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* — ROMANS 3:23