

VALUE OF THE SOUL

Scripture Reading: Mark 8:34-38

01/27/19

Introduction:

1. E.g. -The necklace as told by Paul Harvey (see story below).
2. We each have something of value beyond compare. When we know the worth, we won't trade it for anything this world has to offer.

Proposition: The value of man's soul is beyond compare.

Interrogative: How can we grow in appreciation for the value of our soul?

Transition: We grow in appreciation for the soul when we understand...

I. THE NATURE OF THE SOUL

A. CREATED BY GOD

1. He is the Father of spirits -He 12:9
2. The soul returns to God who gave it -Ec 12:7

B. THE SOUL IS ETERNAL

1. The righteous will have eternal life; the wicked eternal torment -Mt 25:46
2. Survives death
 - a. Rich man and Lazarus -Lk 16:19
 - b. The righteous depart to be with Christ -2Co 5:8, Ph 1:21-24; 2Ti 4:6

II. THE VALUE OF THE SOUL -Mk 8:36, 37

A. WORTH MORE THAN ALL THE WORLD

1. Think of the value of all the world's wealth
2. E.g. -Solomon's observations -Ec 2:10, 11

B. WHAT WOULD ONE GIVE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE SOUL?

1. The world offers wealth and pleasure for the soul.
2. All of these things fade -1Jn 2:15-17

III. THE PRICE PAID FOR THE SOUL

A. JESUS REDEEMED OUR SOULS

1. He did so with the price of His own blood -1Pe 1:18, 19
2. He bought the church -Ac 20:28
3. We flee sexual immorality for He owns our body and spirit -1Co 6:18-20

B. WHAT IS IT WORTH TO YOU?

1. Judas sold his for 30 pieces of silver -Mt 26:14-16; 27:3-10
2. The rich young ruler held onto his wealth -Mt 19:16-22

3. Herod remained in his unlawful marriage -Mk 6:17-20
4. Ananias and Sapphira for money -Ac 5:1-11
5. Pilate for fear -Jn 19:12-16
6. The Pharisees for seats in the synagogue -Jn 12:42

Conclusion:

1. When we know the value of our soul, we will hold onto it come what may.
2. Let us like Paul continue to press on to the goal that is ahead -Ph 3:12-14

Story as told by Paul Harvey on “The Rest of the Story” and Cynthia Rutledge.

Genuine Imitation Amber A young couple from the Midwest decided to spend their honeymoon in California. They enjoyed the weather and walking along the board- walk with all of the small shops. In one of the shops they found a case with a sign saying “Genuine Imitation” next to a display of beautiful necklaces. The wife looked through the selection and found one that she really loved. It was a bit pricey, but the husband wanted to buy his bride a memento of the honeymoon trip so they left the store with an amber-colored necklace of carved beads.

The necklace was a favorite and she wore it on many occasions, always thinking of their honeymoon when she did. After 20+ years the necklace finally broke. She took it to her local jeweler to ask if he could re-string it for her. He said that it should not be a problem and took out his loop to look at the beads. While still examining the necklace he asked if she would be willing to sell it and offered her \$1,000 for it. She very indignantly said “No – it was a gift from my husband, and anyway why would you pay \$1,000 for imitation beads?” The jeweler did not answer her question, but did re-string the necklace as she requested.

When she returned home, her husband was just as surprised as she was at the jeweler's offer. He was planning a business trip to New York City and told his wife that he would take the necklace along and if he had time he would stop at one of the famous jewelry stores there and see if they would appraise it for him. He did get time to stop at a jewelry store while he was in New York and they did agree to look at the necklace for him. The jeweler promptly asked him if he wanted to sell the piece and offered him \$3,000 for it. The husband said, "Please tell me what is going on, why would someone offer us \$1,000 and then \$3,000 for a necklace made up of genuine imitation beads? I do not understand" To which the jeweler replied "You have never looked at these beads with a loop, have you?" "Of course not, why would we?" replied the husband. The jeweler then went on to explain that the beads were actually carved amber, not imitation anything, and that each of the beads was inscribed: To Josephine from Napoleon 18xx.

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