

Justin Windham

Kingdom Economics | Kingdom Bound

[During the sermon, there were technical difficulties and the final section of the message was lost. Below is the transcript of the lost portion.]

Here's how you can evaluate your life's ambitions: Ask yourself, if you were to achieve everything you ever dreamed of overnight—and then Jesus returned tomorrow to take you home—how would you feel about those things you just garnered and yet hardly had time to make use of?

If your goal was money, power, and stuff (and all of that was granted to you—overnight—and yet that next day the Lord returns...you would quickly realized you squandered your opportunity because Christ is now here and those things mean nothing. But if your ambition it was to be more like Christ through His power, and through identifying with him in suffering—and you achieved that over night and then He returns. You are now meeting your Savior who you have have become very much like, and that suffering wouldn't have lasted much time at all.

Paul's priorities were focused on becoming like Jesus. Pursuing a life imitating Jesus—even in suffering—especially through suffering—he was readying Himself for Christ's return

1. Anticipate Your Resurrection! (v.11)

11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

John 11:25: "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,"

Matthew 13:44-45

The Parable of the Hidden Treasure

44 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, 46 who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Why does Paul consider Knowing Jesus the GAIN that surpasses all else—the GAIN that makes every other "good" thing look like a loss?

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"Notice that the merchant stopped seeking pearls when he found the pearl of great price. Eternal life, the incorruptible inheritance, and the love of God through Christ constitute the pearl which, once found, makes further searching unnecessary. Christ fulfills our greatest needs, satisfies our longings, makes us whole and clean before God, calms and quiets our hearts, and gives us hope for the future. The "great price," of course, is that which was paid by Christ for our redemption. He emptied Himself of His glory, came to earth in the form of a lowly man and shed His precious blood on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins."
(Got Questions:)

Let's Pray!

Jeremiah 9:23-24: "23 Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, 24 but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord."