

## **“Things We Need Take To The Grave”**

**Text:           Ecclesiastes 5:15 & 1 Timothy 6:7**

**Intro:**

- The Word of God tells us that we enter and exist this world the same way.
  - Naked.
  - Without anything material.
- As the expression goes, “You can’t take it with you.”
  - In other words, you can’t take your –
    - **Your Accumulated wealth** – (Banks accounts, Stocks & bonds, pension, home, and property) **with you**
    - **Your education** – Ph. D., etc. **with you**
    - **Your accomplishments** – academy awards, noble peace prize, Pulitzer prize, super bowl ring, heavy weight champ of the world, first man to fly from New York to Paris, first man to land on the moon, a cure for polio, etc. **with you**
    - **Your position** – king, queen, president, prime minister, senator, congressman, mayor, governor, Conductor of a major city’s symphony, CEO of Xerox, Micro-Soft, Ford, GM, or Chrysler or one of the fortune 500 companies, **with you.**
- My friend you are going to exit this world the same way you entered it naked and empty handed.
- While this is true regarding the temporal things, the physical realm, things that can be seen, we can take some things with us when we exist this world that are not seen.
- The Apostle Paul, tells us the things not seen are eternal.
  - **2 Cor. 4:18**, “While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.”
- This morning I want us to look at some things we need to take to the grave with us.

### **I.       SALVATION EXPERIENCE**

- Remember time & place in your life trusted Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour.
  - **See Rom. 10:9-10, 13.**
  - **Jesus said, Ye must be born again to enter the kingdom of God.**
  - Not talking about an emotional experience where you blabbered in some gibberish or fell backwards on the floor.
  - Not talking about going into a little box and confessing your sins to man dressed in black.
  - Not talking about being sprinkled as an infant.

- o Not talking about eating a little wafer that has been changed into God.
- o I'm talking about a time and place that you realized in your heart –
  - You were a Sinner
  - If died, deserved to go to hell because of you sin.
  - But called upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to save you from going to a sinner's hell and trusting in only Christ's shed blood to pay for your sins.
- o The Bible tells us in **Proverbs 11:4**, "Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death."
- o All the money in the world will never be able to save your soul only the shed blood of Jesus Christ.
- o Jesus said, in **Mark 8:35-38 – Read.**
- o My friend you need to take a salvation experience to the grave.

## II. SACRIFICE EXPERIENCE

- The Word of God commands us in **Romans 12:1**, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."
  - o In order for something to be a sacrifice it must have cost you something.
  - o Romans 12:1 tells us the time to sacrifice is while you are alive and that sacrifice is given through our bodies.
  - o In **Hebrews 13:15-16**, we are given four specific sacrifices that a Christian can give to the Lord that will be well pleasing to Him.
    - **Read Heb. 13:15-16**
  - o **praise to God continually**
    - If you praise God continually it is going to cost you something.
    - You are going to upset people.
    - You may lose your friends, family, and acquaintances.
  - o **giving thanks to his name**
    - If you give thanks to the Lord's name instead of the Government, your employer, a politician, or a charitable organization it is going cost you something.
    - You may lose your reputation.
  - o **do good**
    - Majority of folks doing bad today while they think they are doing good – i.e., political correct group,.
    - My friend if you do good according to the word of God then going to cost you something,
    - When you stand up for what is descent and moral.
    - When you try and live your life according to the Bible.
    - It is going to cost you something – Amen!!!
  - o **communicate forget not**
    - The word "communicate" does not just mean with your mouth but also with your money.

- Christian are very big when comes to talking about what they are going to do.
- But seldom do they put their money where their mouth is.
- The Bible tells us, **“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”**
- If you say that you love God then you should support His Ministry (you local church), His Minister (your pastor) and His Missionaries.
- But it going to cost you something, you may have to give up your cable TV – Amen!
- You may have to give up supporting your radio and TV preachers – Amen!
- You may have to give up playing the lottery!
- My friend you need to take a Sacrifice Experience to the grave.

### III. SOUL WINNING EXPERIENCE

- Jesus said, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men,
  - If you are truly following Jesus then you should actively be trying to win someone to the Lord.
  - The Bible reminds us in the Book of Proverbs, **“he that winneth souls is wise.”**
  - The Bible tells us that the soul winner will shine brightly as the stars throughout all of eternity.
  - **See Daniel 12:3**
  - **The Apostle Paul tells us we are to relate to others where they are to win them to the Lord. – See 1 Cor. 9:19-23.**
  - **However, we should never do wrong or sin for a chance to do right.**
  - The Apostle Paul referred to those that He had won to the Lord in Thessalonica as his **“crown of rejoicing” – See 1 Thess. 2:19-20.**
  - My friend you need to take a soul winning experience to the grave.

### IV. SUFFERING EXPERIENCE

- The problem with a majority of Christians today is that they want the crown without the cross.
  - The word of God tells us over and over again that the Christian Life a lot of times is a Life full of suffering.
  - I am not talking about suffering for your sins.
  - I am talking about suffering for Christ.
  - The Apostle Paul had a lot to say about suffering for Christ.
  - **“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” – 2 Tim. 3:12**
  - He also said, **“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;” – 2 Cor. 4:17.**
- There is coming a day very soon when the Lord Jesus Christ is going to rule and reign on the earth for 1,000 years with a Rod of Iron in Righteousness.

- The Apostle Paul tells us if we want to rule with Him, then we must suffer for Him now! – **See 2 Tim. 2:12.**
- My friend you need to take a suffering experience to the grave.

## **V. SERVING OR SERVANT’S EXPERIENCE**

- Over and over again in the gospels accounts Jesus told his disciples **“whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant”**.
- **“If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.”**
- **“But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant”**
- Jesus reminds his disciples why he came to this earth in **Matthew 20:28, “Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”**
- Jesus gives us a great example of humility to follow with the foot washing of His disciples in John 13.
  - **He tells his disciples in vs. 14-15, “14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.”**
- The majority of Christians today come to church to be served and not serve.
  - All they are interested in is what activities the church has for them and their children.
  - In other words what can the church do for me.
  - The church providing the most activities gets the crowd.
- Praise the Lord that Jesus did not have this attitude because we all would be on our way to a sinner’s hell.
- **See Phil. 2:5-8, v. 7, “took upon him the form of a servant”**
- **Jesus said, in Luke 19:13, “Occupy till I come.”**
  - Not sit on your hands till I come!
  - We should be busy serving Him and others!
- Yes, my friend you need to take a serving or servant’s experience to the grave.

### **Conclusion:**

- This morning we have looked at some things we need to take to the grave.
  - SALVATION EXPERIENCE
  - SACRIFICE EXPERIENCE
  - SOUL WINNING EXPERIENCE
  - SUFFERING EXPERIENCE
  - SERVING OR SERVANT’S EXPERIENCE