

“Things You Can Lose”

⇒ **Text:** Mark 8:36-37

⇒ **Intro:**

- The Word of God tells us that a person can lose their soul.
 - Man is made up of a body, soul, and spirit.
 - **See Gen. 2:7**
- The scriptures tell us when a person dies.
 - The body is return to the ground and becomes dust.
 - The spirit goes back to God.
 - The soul is eternal and either goes to heaven or hell.
- We know that the soul has a bodily shape
 - **See Rev. 6:9-11** –
 - Must have been the souls of them that were slain wearing the robes
 - **See Luke 16** – Rich man died “**And in hell he lift up his eyes being in torments,...**” (Luke 16:23)
 - As you read down through that passage you see that this rich man’s soul had a memory and all its five senses.
- My friend if you are here today and have never received Jesus Christ by faith into your heart believing Christ died for your sins, was buried and rose again the third to save you from going to a sinner’s hell.
 - Then your eternal soul will end up where that rich man’s soul is today – in a literal lake of fire for time and eternity.
- It will be to late to try and make an exchange for your soul.
 - Your soul will be lost for all of eternity in a lake of fire.
- Right now while you are alive is the time to make the exchange.
 - Repent of your sins, ask God to forgive for your sins and receive Christ by faith into heart believing His shed sinless blood alone is what paid for everyone of your sins past, present and future.
- Praise God if you are already saved, born again, child of God then you can never lose your eternal soul.
 - You are eternally saved.
 - You cannot lose your salvation.
- Scriptures: Eternal Security
 - **See Eph. 4:30**
 - **See Phil. 1:6**
 - **See John 10:27-30**
 - **See 1 Timothy 1:12**
 - **See John 3:16**
 - **Romans 8:35-39**
- However, even though the Christian cannot lose his salvation there are still some things the scriptures tell us that he can lose.
 - I want us to look at “Things A Christian Can Lose.”

⇒ **I. HIS TESTIMONY**

- It can take a Christian a lifetime to build a testimony for Christ and all it takes is one slip up to lose it.
 - Of course some Christians testimony only extends as far as the church walls.
 - They come in on Sunday and act so pious and the rest of the week they live for the world, the flesh, and the devil.
 - We know that Lot lost his testimony because notice how his son-in laws reacted when he tried to warn them of the coming destruction.
 - **See Genesis 19:14 – “mocked”**
 - They laughed at him.
 - This is a similar reaction a saved person gets when try to witness to the lost after they have been living an ungodly life.
 - We see King David lost his testimony for committing adultery with Bathsheba and having her husband murdered.
 - **See 2 Samuel 12:14**
 - We saw how John Mark lost his testimony with the Apostle Paul for a while after deserting Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey.
 - When Paul and Barnabas were set to start their second missionary journey Barnabas wanted to take John Mark along.
 - Notice contention that this caused between Paul and Barnabas.
 - **See Acts 15:37-40.**
 - It took a while but John Mark eventually regained his testimony with the Apostle Paul.
 - But I am sure the relationship they once had was not the same.
 - **See 2 Timothy 4:11** – This was written at the end of Paul’s life just before he was to be beheaded in Rome.
 - **Personal Example –**
 - Pastor who committed adultery
 - The unsaved are watching you closely waiting for you slip up.
 - In one instance you can bring reproach upon your self, your family, and the cause of Christ.
 - Don’t have the prideful attitude “it could never happen to me or I would never do that.”
 - The word God warns us **“Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”** (1 Cor. 10:12)
- ⇒ **So, the Christian can lose His Testimony.**
- ⇒ **Number II – the Christian can lose -**
- ⇒ **II. HIS REWARD**
- **See I Cor. 3:10-15**
 - **2 John 8**
 - **Things done through the Lord will earn rewards that remain, things done through self will be burned.**
 - I believe a lot that goes on in the name of Christ will burned up at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

- Examples – Mega churches
- Christians that lose rewards –
 - **See Romans 16:17-18**
 - **See Romans 14:13** – Christians who are a stumbling block to other Christians.
 - Especially, Christians who have been saved for many years to newly saved Christians
 - **See 2 Thess. 3:6**
 - **See Phil 3:16-19** – Enemies of the Cross, Apostle Paul talking Christians
 - **See 2 Tim. 3:1-5** – Apostle Paul talking about the church.
- ⇒ **So, the Christian can lose His Reward.**
- ⇒ **Number III – the Christian can lose -**
- ⇒ **III. JOY OF HIS SALVATION**
 - **See Psalm 51:12**
 - David had lost the joy of his salvation.
 - His sweet fellowship with the Lord because of his sins of adultery and murder.
 - That is exactly what happens when you sin.
 - You break fellowship with the Lord.
 - You lose the joy that comes as a result of your fellowship with God.
 - The reason being is that sin separates the believer from God.
 - You don't lose your salvation but you do lose the joy of walking with Him and talking with Him.
 - We saw this with Adam and Eve in garden when they sinned against God.
 - They hid themselves and became afraid of God.
 - It is similar to when you have done something to offend a friend.
 - The joy of that friendship is taken away.
 - You see God has feelings often times we act in such away that grieves Him.
 - **See Eph. 4:30**
 - **Grieve** = To offend; to displease; to provoke.
 - The word of God tells us that our prayer life will suffer as a result of sin.
 - Psalm 66:18 – **“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:”**
 - How do we restore the joy of our salvation.
 - **See Psalm 51:1-4**
 - Follow David example:
 - **Confess (Acknowledge)**
 - **Repent**
 - **Ask God for His mercy and forgiveness**
 - Claim God's promise in 1 John 1:9, **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”**

⇒ **So, the Christian can lose the joy of his salvation.**

⇒ **Number IV – the Christian can lose –**

⇒ **IV. HIS MIND**

○ **See Philippians 4:6-7**

- Notice vs. 7, “...shall **keep** your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”

- I believe the inference is that a Christian can lose their mind.

○ I believe the Christian can do this by letting the cares and worries of this old world consume them.

- Fill their hearts and minds with worry and fear.

- The scriptures tells us in Matthew 13:22, “**care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word,**”

○ However, I believe the Christian can prevent this from happening if they would follow God’s prescription in v. 6.

○ My friend that fear and worry is of the devil not the Lord.

- The word of God reminds us that “...**God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.**” (2 Tim. 1:7)

⇒ **Conclusion:**

○ This morning we have looked at four things that the Christian can lose.

- **I. HIS TESTIMONY**

- **II. HIS REWARD**

- **III. JOY OF HIS SALVATION**

- **IV. HIS MIND**

○ But praise God the Christian cannot lose his salvation.

- That he is eternally secure in the hand of Almighty God.

○ If you are here today, where will your eternal soul spend eternity.

- We saw from the scriptures it will be one or two places.

- Either heaven or hell.

- The choice is yours

○ Right now, my friend if you would like that eternal security we talked about –

- Won’t you not come and receive Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour.

- By repenting of your sins, asking God to forgive you of your sins, and receiving Jesus Christ into your heart by faith believing that Christ died for your sins, was buried and rose the third day to save your soul from going to hell.