



The Value of Soul Winning

Proverbs 11:30 -- *The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who is wise wins souls.*

Introduction

1. The above passage raises several questions for us that this lesson will try to answer: Why should one win souls? Why would it be wise to win souls?
2. Other questions to be answered are: What value is there in soul-winning? and Should it be important to EVERY Christian? Considering the value of soul-winning will hopefully provide the answers for us.

A. The Value of the Soul

1. Each person has something more valuable than all this world has to offer.
Matthew 16:26 -- *For what will a man be profited, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?*
2. Man is more important than the beast of the field (Matthew 12:11-12a). While one may inherit fame and fortune from his parents, he receives his soul from God.
Ecclesiastes 12:7 -- *Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.*
Acts 17:28 -- *For in Him we live and move and exist,.. "For we are His offspring."*
3. The soul is important because it will live on after death.
Luke 20:37-38 -- *But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed in the passage about the burning bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now He is not the God of the dead, but of the living...*
4. We praise doctors who save one's physical life; but saving a spirit is greater.
Matthew 10:28 -- *And do not fear those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

B. The Value of the Plan of Redemption

1. The lost soul needs to know that God has planned for his salvation from eternity.
Ephesians 3:10-11 -- *In order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus...*
2. He purposed to provide all spiritual blessings for those who would be in His Son.
Ephesians 1:3-7 -- *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ...*
3. Members of the Godhead have worked with man to bring about this salvation.
1 Peter 1:2 -- *According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood:...*

C. The Value of the Savior

1. God's scheme of redemption for the world included the sacrifice of His own Son.
John 3:16 -- *For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.*
2. Jesus knew His mission.
Luke 19:10 -- *For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.*
3. It was only through the shedding of the blood of the innocent Christ that we might be forgiven of all our sins.
1 Peter 1:18-19 -- *... you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver and gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.*

D. The Value of the Saved

1. The saved make up the church.
Acts 2:47 -- ...*And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.*
2. It is the church that has been purchased by the precious blood of the Lamb.
Acts 20:28 -- *Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.*
3. Like ripples in a lake in which someone has cast a stone, so the church is to spread out, saving souls in its growth.
Ephesians 4:16 -- ... *according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.*

E. The Value of Society

1. Not only is the church blessed by soul-winning, but society as a whole is blessed.
Psalms 33:12 -- *Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.*
2. Ten righteous people would have spared Sodom (Genesis 18:32). And how many other nations and civilizations have been brought down because God could no longer find in them enough people who served Him.
3. No wonder Christians are said to be the salt of the earth.
Matthew 5:13 -- *You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how will it be made salty again?...*

F. The Value of the Scriptures

1. The Holy Spirit has revealed the valuable plan of redemption.
John 16:7-13 -- ...*And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment...*
2. The importance of the Word of God is in its connection to salvation (Rom. 1:16).
3. The Word is so important that God has preserved it through the ages.
1 Peter 1:23-25 -- *For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God...the word of the Lord abides forever.*
4. The Word is all-sufficient.
2 Timothy 3:16-17 -- ...*that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*

G. The Value of the Salvation of Self

1. Teaching others will help us to develop spiritually.
Hebrews 5:12-14 -- ... *for though by this time you ought to be teachers... who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.*
2. Consider who would be saved in the work of Timothy.
1 Timothy 4:16 -- *Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will insure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.*
3. Telling others what they need to hear is the only way we can be "innocent of the blood of all men."
Ezekiel 3:18 -- *When I say to the wicked, "You shall surely die"; and you do not warn him or speak out to warn the wicked from his wicked way that he may live, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand.*
Acts 20:26-27 -- *Therefore I testify to you this day, that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I did not shrink from declaring the whole purpose of God.*

Will you be among the wise who know the value of soul-winning (Daniel 12:3)?