

PRICELESS THINGS

Introduction

- 1) There are some things in life that you cannot put a price tag on – that was the message of a 1997 MasterCard commercial of a man and his son at a baseball game:
*“Two tickets: \$28, two hot dogs, two popcorns, two sodas: \$18, one autographed baseball: \$45, real conversation with an eleven-year-old son: **priceless** – there are some things money can’t buy...”*
- 2) Some believe that everything and everyone has their price and can be bought (Prov. 17:23)
- 3) But there are certain things that are **priceless** in value above all other things

I) SOUL

- A) **Matthew 16:26** – what will a person give in exchange for his priceless soul?
- B) Our immortal soul/spirit is given and sustained by God (Heb. 12:9)
- C) Our soul must come before earthly wealth, fame, pleasure, power, prestige (Matt. 6:33)
 - 1) No eternal profit or advantage for one who gains the world at the price of his soul (Lk. 16:19-31)
 - 2) To die without a right relationship with God will cause us to lose our soul eternally
- D) The salvation of our soul must be our greatest desire (Jas. 1:21; 5:19-20; 1 Pet. 1:9)
 - 1) After death God cares for faithful souls until the resurrection (Eccl. 12:7; Psalms 116:15)

II) FAITH

- A) **1 Peter 1:6-7** – faith is much more precious than gold that perishes
 - 1) Genuineness is tested by fire – will be found to praise, honor, and glory at Christ’s coming
- B) Faith keeps us secure for eternal victory and salvation (1 Pet. 1:3-9; 1 Jn. 5:4)
- C) Without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:6) or be saved (Rom. 1:16-17; 10:17)

III) WORD OF GOD

- A) **Psalms 119:72** – God’s word is priceless compared to much gold and silver
- B) Worth of God’s word should be far higher than gold (Psalms 119:127; 19:9-10)
 - 1) Warns us and promises great reward in keeping it (Psalms 19:11)
- C) Wisdom gained is the priceless knowledge of God (Prov. 3:13-15; 8:10-11; 16:16; 23:23)
 - 1) We are given exceedingly great and precious promises (2 Pet. 1:3-4)

IV) KINGDOM OF GOD

- A) **Matthew 13:44-46** – parables of the treasure hid in the field and the priceless pearl
 - 1) The priceless kingdom of God is to be sought first in our life (Matt. 6:33; Lk. 23:51)
- B) Being a Christian makes former priceless things worthless (Acts 19:19; Heb. 10:34)
 - 1) Hidden person of the heart of greater worth than outward things (1 Pet. 3:3-4)

V) CHRIST

- A) **1 Peter 2:4-7** – Christ is a living stone, chosen by God and precious
 - 1) His precious blood was the price paid for our salvation (1 Cor. 6:20; Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 1:19)
- B) Paul learned that gaining Christ was worth giving up everything in this life (Phil. 3:4-8)

Conclusion

“The first step toward heaven is to find out the worth of your soul” (J. C. Ryle). When we understand the **priceless value of our soul**, we will seek out the truth of God and the kingdom of Christ where there is eternal life and salvation for our soul. What is valuable in your life? What is truly priceless to you? Will it last forever? Consider Matthew 16:26 carefully.