

WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR LIFE

THE MIND OF CHRIST AND THE VALUE OF LIFE

*"For scarcely for a righteous man will one die:
yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die."*

~ Romans 5:7

1. What's More Important Than Your Life

- a. If you say, "nothing", then this lesson is for you.
- b. The present lockdown crises raise important questions about the value of life
 - i. Food shortages, unemployment, poverty, alcohol/drug use, suicide, starvation, delayed treatment now and in the future.
- c. The justification: "one death is too many", "if it saves one life it is all worth it", "zero"
- d. Whose life? What kind of life? What's the value of your life, human life, one life?
- e. Sunday school teaches one sheep principle (Mt 18:12-14), and Jesus died for you!
- f. This is a doctrinal issue affected by your belief about God, grace, salvation.

2. Life is Undeserved

- a. When dealing with global issues we need a bigger perspective (God's)
- b. Life/death issues are the biggest most important issues – eg. gospel of salvation.
- c. To live is our natural and spiritual motivation, "certain unalienable rights"
- d. What is the value of man? Ps 103:15, 1 Pet 1:24-25, Jam 4:14; Isa 51:12-13
- e. We are not entitled to life – it was given by God – Heb 9:27, Rom 3:23, 5:12
- f. Grace teaches life is unearned and undeserved, it is a gift – Rom 6:23
- g. Eternal life is not yours either – 1Co 6:19, Gal 2:20, 2 Cor 5:14-15

3. More Important Than Your Life

- a. If the whole world dies so that you would live, is it worth it? If one man dies?
- b. Christ is God and he died for you (a sinner) - Romans 5:7-8 ← not worth it
- c. Is there anything you would die for, or would deserve to die for? What do you love?
 - i. If the only thing you love is your life, there is a problem – John 12:25
- d. Consider David (2 Sam 12:17-24), Paul (Acts 14:19, Rom 9:3), Christ (Phi 2:5-8)
 - i. The lone sheep was one sinner that repented - Luke 15:4-7
- e. Things more important than our life: God (Ro 3:4), righteousness, law (Ro 2:12), the sort of work we do (1 Cor 3:13, 2 Cor 5:10, Rev 20:12-13), truth (1Ti 2:4), lips (1 Pet 3:10-11), faith, peace (Rev 21:8), love (charity, the love of God)
- f. The end does not justify the means – survival without these things is not worth it.
 - i. God has a right means to his good end of eternal life.
 - ii. If taking responsibility means you can't minister, do your duty – 1Ti 4:16, 5:8
 - iii. If right means ends up killing more of us, then it is worth it to do what is right
- g. God does not save you because of the value of your life, but the value of his.
 - i. He is merciful, gracious, kind, loving, we are grass that die constantly.