



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

December 08, 2020

The Price of Admission

By Tim Dooley



Have you ever wanted to attend an event, been invited to a show, or desired to see some great exhibit only to be discouraged by the price of admission? What is the determining factor in deciding whether the price of admission is worth it or too high? Is it not how much we truly want something that determines whether or not it is worth the price of admission?

In understanding the value of our souls, we need to first look at what the Father of our souls was willing to pay in order to redeem them. One of the most memorized, used (and misused) scriptures in all the Bible has to be John 3:16. But the truth is that God did, *“so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”* 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, *“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”* Titus 2:14 tells us that Jesus, *“...gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”*

You see, God’s desire for us to be reconciled to Him was so important to Him that no price was too high. Just as faithful Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son of promise, so the Father of our souls was willing to sacrifice His only begotten Son. In John 15:13 Christ said, *“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”*

So then seeing how much our souls mean to God we turn our attention to our own perspective. What is your soul’s salvation worth to you? Jesus asked this very question in Matthew 16 when he inquires, *“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”* (v. 26).

In Mark 10, Jesus responded to the query of the rich young man that came to him desiring to know what it would cost to *“inherit eternal life”* (v. 17) that he must, *“sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven;”* (v. 21). But the young man was saddened by the answer of the Lord and, *“went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions”* (v. 22). For him the price of admission was too high!

The apostle Peter’s responses to all this was, *“we have left everything and followed you”* (v. 28). To which our Lord replies, *“Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life”* (vs. 29-30).

Sadly, for many today, the price of admission into the kingdom of heaven is just too high. Their allegiances lie with this life and the things of the world and they will not pay the price necessary to see eternal life. How sad it will be in the Day of Judgment for those who gave up the eternal glory of God to hold on to the fleeting things of this life on earth. Heaven will surely be worth it all! Be obedient and be faithful.

Let's Take A Minute:

A WEALTHY MAN'S PECULIAR HABIT!

A man of great wealth who possessed a luxurious mansion on the ocean's shore, a valuable New York apartment, and extensive business holdings, had a peculiar habit! In view of all of his wealth, he had the practice of stopping, in mid-stride, to pick up a coin – even a penny - which he saw on the sidewalk.

An associate noticed his unusual practice and inquired of him, "Why would a man of your financial worth feel the need to stop to pick up a penny?" The wealthy man pulled a penny from his pocket and asked his inquiring friend, "Look at this penny and read what it says." His friend read out loud: "The United States of America." The man replied, "No, not that. Read on." "One cent?" "No, keep reading." "In God we trust?" Yes, that's it

The man asked for a further explanation. The wealthy man replied, "The name of God is holy, (Ps. 33:21) even on a coin dropped to the ground! Whenever I spot a coin, I see and reflect upon that inscription! It appears on every coin of the United States currency, but most seem never to notice it!"

He went on, "God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him. Who am I to let it pass me by?" He then added, "When I see a coin, I stop and pray. I stop at that moment to see if my trust IS in God (Prov. 3:5-6) and I pick up the coin as if to say, "Yes, I trust in Thee!" Then, for a short time, before resuming my activities, I cherish that single coin as if it were gold!"

So, the next time you are worried or fretful about your difficulties, stop to pick up that penny you see on the ground (preferably out of the line of traffic!), read the words, "In God We Trust," take a moment to pray a prayer of thanksgiving to God, and reflect upon your trust in Him and His love for you! (I John 3:1)

My minute's up!

~ James Horton ~

Love Grows Up

"When I was a child I spake as a child, I thought as a child, but when I became a man I put away childish things" (1 Cor. 13:12). Life brings no greater blessing than a child, but it is a heartbreaking tragedy when the child never develops, physically or mentally. And some people never mature. Several characteristics of little children are: (1) Children become very upset over any personal hurt. If pins prick the flesh they cry as if deadly wounded. They are not concerned about the suffering of others, but weep mostly for themselves. (2) Children want to be the center of attention. They are jealous of others about them. They are willing to play if they can choose the game. They demand applause and appreciation. (3) Children have to be taught to be thankful. Gratitude does not come naturally for them. They take the blessings anything. They desire to get all they can, but they feel little obligation to others. They rarely think of what they owe parents, or the world they live in. (5) Children view life as a matter of course, as somehow deserved. (4) Children owe nobody and can be self-centered. They live in a world that revolves around them.

When one grows up and puts away childish things it does not mean tears never come to his eyes. It means that tears are reserved for causes that deserve them. A mature person can and does weep over his personal hurts, but more often the tears of love are for hurts of others.

When one grows up he still appreciates approval from others, but goes on living, working, and serving even when unrecognized by others. Gratitude and appreciation are the flowers of mature love. Love is always glad to say thank you. Love feels a deep sense of obligation to others. Mature love is *"a debtor to Greeks and barbarians, both to wise and unwise"* (Romans 1:14). Love feels its obligation to serve (Galatians 5:13). Love puts away childish things. It grows up. ~ By Tom Kelton

Letter from the Elders

As we all know, the Covid virus has had a spike over the last week or so. We would like to remind each of you to maintain social distancing, continue to wash your hands on a regular basis, and please observe an empty pew in every other row while here in the church building.

Please remember that the CDC highly recommends that we wear our mask, not only to protect ourselves but others around us.

You'll notice that we have purchased and placed additional hand sanitizer stations in the lobby for your use.

We ask that you continue to observe these procedures so that we can keep each of you safe as possible while here in the building. We will continue to monitor the situation and keep the congregation informed.

Thank you for your cooperation, the Elders

YOU TUBE ~ LIVE STREAMING ~ Sun. @ 9:30; Wed. @ 6:30

PRAYER LIST



Debra Harville, sister-in-law of *Kathy Clayton* had a bad reaction to her chemo treatments. She is back home and doing better.

Dixie White is scheduled to have a heart ablation Dec. 17th, in Tupelo.

Andrea Hill, is scheduled to have a procedure done next week at UAB in Birmingham.

Harold Russell has three cracked vertebra and is in a lot of pain. He is waiting to be scheduled for surgery.

Earnestine Dye, mother of *Tim Dye*, fell this past week and injured her wrist.

Sue & Bobby Marques are having a difficult time with their health right now.

Ronnie Miller, father of *Amanda Coggin*, is staying with *Dane* and *Amanda* while he recovers. He continues to struggle with his health.

Gloria Jones is dealing with health issues.

Larry Cobb received a good report from his recent liver test.

Remember all our shut-ins who, due to Covid, are unable to be out and about like they want to be.

Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, Chris Bradley, Kathy Clayton, Shelly Clayton, Shane Crofts, Amanda Dye, Kathy Dye, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmatt, Madison Hardy, Andrea Hill, David Holmes, Luke Jennings, Ronnie Miller, Josh Moore, Nancy Petrowski, Olivia Pounders, Joe Reed, Lake Tremble, Terri Turner, Charles Ulmer, William Wilson, Donnie Wilson, Sarah Grace Wise

Shut-Ins:

J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Bill & Grace Lyon, Nancy Petrowski,

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Bill & Helen DePriest, Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Price Senter, J.D. Stroud

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Luke Goff, Chase Seals



I've Learned

If you want to spoil the day for a grouch, give him a smile.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



December 08. Larry Ashmore

December 08. Deloris Crowe

December 10. Maria Ormon

December 13. Richard Conquest

December 13. Clayton Hill

December 13. Anna Jennings

December 14. Eleta Grimmatt



RESPONSES

We had three responses this past Sunday. *Shaler Grigsby* responded asking for the prayers of the church for strength and encouragement to live as Christ would have him. *Steve* and *Lana Todd* also responded asking for prayers, encouragement and strength to be the kind of example that they should be. We are so encouraged by their examples. Continue to pray for them and each other.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- All planning to attend CYC in late Feb. need to turn in their registration fees no later than Sunday, Dec. 13th.
- Gifts for the residents at the Glenfield nursing home need to be brought by Sunday, Dec. 13th, and placed in room 12. Remember to place the ornament number on the gift.
- The care groups who are participating in bringing items for school children who may not have enough to eat over the weekend are asked to have these items brought to the building by Sunday Dec. 13th. Thanks to everyone who participated.
- *Tim* and *Colleen* will be closing on their house in Kentucky on the 14th, and then on their house here on the 15th. We will have an update Sunday on how we can help them get settled. We are so excited to have them with us. *Shaler* will be preaching this Sunday Dec. 13th, as they are in transition.
- The Youth Devo / Christmas party this month will be held Dec. 20th, at 6:00pm. *Shaler* and *Madison* will be hosting. More details will be announced later.

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

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Volume 47

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30
Morning Worship.....10:30
Evening Worship.....
Wednesday Bible Study....6:30

MINISTERS

Tim Dooley.....859-486-4215
Shaler Grigsby...Youth/ Assoc.
.....256-263-9137
Office.....662-534-4649

ELDERS

Greg Clayton.....252-9762
Tim Dye.....316-2527
Richard Jennings316-1305
Troy Robertson316-3163
Phil Young.....316-2059

DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....316-6420
Roger Clayton 538-8195
Shane Crotts.....266-0195
Jason Jennings..... 801-3260
Mark Jennings....731-609-3309
Randy Wall 316-9255

TO SERVE

Communion.....Olen Clark
Scripture.....Clay Jennings
A.M. Prayer.....Dillon Clayton
Closing.....Larry Cobb
P.M. Prayer.....
Closing.....
Wed 16th.....Perry J./ Ronnie G
Lock.....Kurt Clayton
Usher Kurt Clayton
SecurityRandy Wall

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....NA
Sunday A.M.....96
Sunday P.M.....
Wednesday.....70
Contribution.....NA
Budget.....\$4,095.92

PANTRY ITEMS



Deodorant

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