**The Cost of Losing**

**Reading - Text: Mark 8:36-38**

***Mark 8:36: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and loose his own soul?"***

***(James 5:1-6) Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you! {2} Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. {3} Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have heaped up treasure in the last days. {4} Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. {5} You have lived on the earth in pleasure and luxury; you have fattened your hearts as in a day of slaughter. {6} You have condemned, you have murdered the just; he does not resist you.***

We can read of many who refused to follow the Lord. [***John 6:66] From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.,***

***(John 12:42-43) Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; {43} for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.***

***(Acts 26:28) Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian."***

Your life is full of sacrifices whether you are a Christian or not.

1. If you are a Christian ***you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service*** **(Romans 12:1)**

2. If you are not a Christian or one who is not faithful any longer you are sacrificing something also! Here’s what you sacrifice..............

**1.**

***(1 Timothy 6:20-21) O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babbling and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge; {21} by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith.***

***(2 Timothy 2:16-17) But shun profane and idle babbling, for they will increase to more ungodliness. {17} And their message will spread like cancer.***

***(Matthew 10:28) "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.***

***(Ezekiel 18:20) "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.***

***(Romans 6:23) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*** There’s something else you sacrifice.....

**2.**

***(Psalms 16:8-11) I have set the LORD always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. {9} Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. {10} For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. {11} You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*** -

***Psalm 116:15 states, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."***

***(Acts 8:39) Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.***

***(Acts 16:34) Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.***

3. We rob ourselves from a  as well.

***(Philippians 1:21-23) For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. {22} But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. {23} For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.***

***(Galatians 5:22-23) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, {23} gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.***

***(Philippians 4:4) Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!***

Here’s what else you’re giving up.....

**4.**

***(1 Timothy 6:6-8) Now godliness with contentment is great gain. {7} For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. {8} And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.***

***(Hebrews 13:5) Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."***

***(1 Timothy 6:9) But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.***

***(Philippians 4:10-14) But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. {11} Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: {12} I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. {13} I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. {14} Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress.*** Here’s the final thing you lose.....

**5.**

***(Ephesians 2:12) that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.***

***(1 Corinthians 15:16-19) For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. {17} And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! {18} Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. {19} If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.***