

Don't Waste Your Life

12/28/2025

Intro

- Plague of Galen (165-180 AD)
- Jim Elliot and the Waodani Natives of Ecuador
 - Quote: Jim Elliot – “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”
 - Quote: Nate Saint – “People who do not know the Lord ask why in the world we waste our lives as missionaries. They forget that they too are expending their lives... and when the bubble has burst they will have nothing of eternal significance to show for the years they have wasted.”

Lose Your Life to Save It

- Matthew 16:24-27 – 24 ...Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

Cost of Not Being a Disciple

- But there is an even higher cost to pay for not being His disciple – ultimately, insignificance, a wasted life.

Standing on the Shoulders of Giants

- Quote: Isaac Newton – “If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants.”
- Early Methodist Circuit Riders
 - Francis Asbury
 - Richard Allen
 - Quote: “many die without nurses. Some perish from the want of a [drink] of water. Parents desert their children... Many people thrust their parents into the streets... And in every room you enter you see no person but a solitary black man or woman near the sick.”
 - Richmond Nolley
 - Henry Weston Smith
 - John Lewis Dyer (Snowshoe Itinerant)
 - Life expectancy = 33 years
 - 1770: 600 Methodists in America... 1860: 1.5 million

We Will Give an Account

- Hebrews 4:13 - Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.
- Quote: Howard Storm – “My life was devoted to building a monument to my ego... My family, my sculptures, my painting... All of those things were now gone, and what did they matter?”