

Can You Tell The Difference Between Real And Imaginary? Are You Sure?

Now, if you are really sure you know what is real and what is imaginary, I would like you to take a piece of paper and list the ten most precious and real things in your life. Now, do not read further until you have listed ten items!

STOP make the list.

Let us take a capsule view of our society, it is a fast speed and not always looking to the end of a task but what can be gained right now for self. It is a throw-away generation. A generation that is like Israel of old, "Looking for a Change". It is very easy in this type of environment to misplace real values and substituted imaginary ones in their place. You may think what I have just stated is not true, if so, take your list, what was your number one item? Was it self, mate, children, friends or a hobby? Now let us take a look at what the Creator, God the Father has stated in no uncertain terms, what is the most important.

Your soul is more valuable than all the world! How do we know that, because the Son of God said it! Mark 8:36-37--For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? 37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Does this mean that my soul is more precious than my possessions? Again, let us go to God's Word for the answers. John 6:27--Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed; Look at 2 Peter 3:10--But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. We need to remember Noah, that event really happened and the proof of that event is on every continent. The soul is so precious that Jesus said; "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Do we really understand the value of just one soul? Look at the account of the Prodigal son (just one soul) Luke 15:11-32. Doesn't this show the value that the Father places upon the soul. Look at the Parable of the Lost Sheep; Luke 15:3-6-And he spake this parable unto them, saying, 4 What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? 5 And when he hath found [it], he layeth [it] on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together [his] friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. Here Jesus teaches, the value of every soul. Redemption of lost souls not only brings joy to the church--(Ax.15:3) And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren., but brings joy in heaven, look at Luke 15:7--I say unto you, that likewise

joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. Doesn't the account of "The rich man and Lazarus" teach us of the everlasting value of the soul? (Lk. 16:19-31). Don't be like the rich man and wait to late to see the value of your soul!

When you read the account of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, how can we miss His words, which testify to the value of the soul? (Matt.26:36-56) Jesus was not self centered, He submitted to the will of the Father and endured the cross, looking to the joy of souls being redeemed Heb. 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

While we are at the scene of Gethsemane, look at Jesus' crucifixion--Matt. 27:35-56, this should stir our hearts to see the value of the soul. One without sin must not only suffer a cruel death, but endure ridiculing and castigation from the very ones He came to save (vss.39-44). Jesus had to suffer all alone vs. 46. The price for a soul is Christ's very blood; knowing that ye were redeemed, not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, from your vain manner of life handed down from your fathers; 19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb without spot, [even the blood] of Christ: (1 Pet.1:18-19). Brethren, we need to understand fully our indebtedness to our Lord and Savior; But God commendeth his own love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, shall we be saved from the wrath [of God] through him (Rom.5:8-9). Brethren, listen to the apostle Paul, Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain (1 Cor. 15:1-2).

Brethren, do you see by the very act of Jesus the Christ ascending into heaven (Ax.1:9-11) , that a place is prepared for the soul; Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also... (John 14:1-6).

Brethren, King Solomon in his great wealth and wisdom knew that death would overtake him and his spirit would return to the Giver; Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it (Ecc.12:7). Beloved, the soul is not imaginary, it is real, it is not expendable or temporary. It will have an eternal home. Brethren, are we going to ignore that great price that was paid for our soul's safety, or our we going to submit to the will of GOD as did Christ? Each soul will stand before God's judgment seat and will be judged by the things written in the "Book of Life". It's "REAL."