

The Value of Life

Matthew 8:34-36

1. Introduction

Every one of us, once born, is destined to die. One birth, one death – one life. We only have one life to live on this earth, and how precious this one life here is!

2. How is the value of life decided?

The value of the object is not decided by itself, but is decided in relationship with the subject. Therefore the value of man is not decided by how long he lives, or how hard he works, but is decided by for whom or for what he lives and for whom and for what he dies.

There are three kinds of people:

- a) There are those who are told it would have been better if they were never born, like Judas Iscariot. There are other examples: tyrants and infamous men and women throughout history whose death left those around them relieved and happy
- b) There are those who gave neither good nor bad influence. When they die, they are forgotten very soon.
- c) How about Jesus? His life was filled with miseries and distress, and sufferings. To the eyes of men, he was a most miserable person. However, even though he was crucified and his flesh perished, he still lives in the hearts of men. Millions of people could die for him, even now. Why?

It is not only because he came as a Son of God. It was also that he was born, he lived, and he lived, and he died for the sake of God and mankind. God is eternal. The value of Jesus' life, who totally dedicated himself for God and mankind, never perished. His physical life was not any different from ours. He was tired after hard work, he was hungry when he didn't eat, and he was thirsty when he didn't drink. Even though Jesus' physical body perished on the cross, the value of his life is absolute and eternal. Jesus has been a shining light to the world for these past 2,000 years.

3. Conclusion

We were born once and will die once. Every one of us has one life. Only one life; there is no alternative. In order to make such a precious life truly precious, we have to live and die for the sake of God and mankind. Jesus showed us the right way to go, and we must follow his way (Matthew 8:24-36).