

ALMOST OR ALTOGETHER

Text: Acts 26:28-29

INTRO: Many seem to think almost is good enough. Common sense says “not so.” Ask the running back who almost scored a touchdown on 4th & goal to go. Ask the politician who almost won the election.

I. ALMOST.

A. Lot was almost destroyed. Gen. 19:21 “A miss is as good

B. His wife was almost saved. Vs. 26

C. Nadab & Abihu almost worshipped God acceptably.

Lev 10:1-2, Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, & offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. 2 So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

D. Moses & Aaron almost reached Canaan, Num. 20:10.

Deut 34:1-4, Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is across from Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land of Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the South, and the plain of the Valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. Then the LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to give Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have caused you to see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there."

II. ALTOGETHER.

A. Joshua was altogether persuaded to serve God.

Josh 24:14-16, Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD! And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves

this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

B. Stephen was altogether faithful.

Acts 7:59-60, And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

C. Paul also was altogether committed to Jesus Christ.

2 Tim 4:6-7, For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, & the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

CONCLUSION: Suppose God had almost finished creation. No human race. Suppose Jesus had almost finished our redemption.

A. What will be the fate of those who almost obeyed the gospel?

2 Thess 1:7-8, The Lord Jesus [will be] revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, & on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

B. What about those who serve God faithfully almost till death, then fall away into sin?

Rev 2:10; Matt. 24:13

Ezek 18:24, But when a righteous man turns away from his righteousness & commits iniquity, & does according to all the abominations that the wicked man does, shall he live? All the righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; because of the unfaithfulness of which he is guilty and the sin which he has committed, because of them he shall die.

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