

PRICES WE PAY

Text: 1 Chronicles 21:24

INTRO: David knew that everything of value has its price. He also knew that our service to God must involve that which is of value to us, or else our service will be of no significance to God. Let us note the prices we pay.

I. THE PRICE FOR REDEMPTION.

A. Not purchased with money, silver, gold or other material things, but with something of far more value than these--the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

1. It cost God His Son. John 3:16.
2. It cost Christ His life. Rom 5:8.

1 Pet 1:18-19, You were not redeemed with corruptible things like silver or gold... but with the precious blood of Christ

3. There is also a cost to us. We must do God's will above our own & seek His kingdom above our physical needs & desires.

a. Jesus taught us to pray that God's will be done MT 10:6

b. To seek His kingdom first, MT 6:33

c. To do His will, MT 7:21-23.

4. We must begin by meeting the conditions of pardon, JN 8:24; LK 13:3; MT 10:32; Acts 2:38

II. THE PRICE FOR GREATNESS.

A. Service. Greatness is not derived from office, position or educational Staus, but from service.

Matt 20:27, Whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your servant.

B. Humility: MT 18:4, Whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

III. THE PRICE FOR FRIENDS.

A. Be friendly: Prov 17:24 A man who has friends must himself be friendly.

B. Be unselfish: Phil 2:4, Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

C. Treat others as you would like to be treated, MT 7:12.

IV. THE PRICE FOR KNOWLEDGE. Not like it was when people spoke by inspiration. Must study. 2 Tim 2:15; 2 Pet 1:5ff

V. THE PRICE FOR SPIRITUAL STRENGTH. The requirements are similar to those for physical strength.

A. Food, 1 Peter 2:2.
1 Cor 3:2, I fed you with milk & not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it...

B. Exercise READ I TIM 4:6-9; HEB 5:12-14

C. Freedom from disease (sin). 1 JN 1:7-9

VI. THE PRICE OF HEAVEN.

- A. Come into Christ. Rom 6:3-5; Gal 3:27
- B. Abide (live) in Christ. JN 15:6; Phil 1:21
- C. Die in Christ. Rev 14:13.

CONCLUSION: A person cannot have everything. Some things cost more than they are worth. A few things have greater value than they cost. Earthly things tend to be over priced & spiritual things tend to be under valued. May God help us get our priorities straight so that we use our physical & material blessings in such a way as to gain the things that are of eternal value, LK 16:9.

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