

THE RULE OF HEAVEN: THY WILL BE DONE.

THE RULE OF HELL: MY WILL BE DONE.

CS LEWIS

WHAT ARE YOU STAKING YOUR LIFE ON?

Ultimately, all of us are staking our lives/souls on our beliefs.

Whatever you are living for . . . you are dying for.

IT IS NO ACCIDENT THAT LIFE IN CHRIST BEGINS WITH A BURIAL

- Colossians 2:12 12 ...buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.
- Romans 6:3-5 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection

YOU CAN'T LIVE IN THIS WORLD WITHOUT BELIEVING IN SOMETHING

• Even if you say you believe in nothing, you believe in something. Your "nothing" is your something.

 To believe in nothing is to believe. Your belief in nothing will direct your life.

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO TELL WHETHER SOMETHING IS WORTH DYING FOR?

• Philippians 1:20-24 - 20 ...according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. 24 Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.

JEZEBEL – A WICKED LIFE

• 1 Kings 21:23-26:

23 And concerning Jezebel the Lord also spoke, saying, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.' 24 The dogs shall eat whoever belongs to Ahab and dies in the city, and the birds of the air shall eat whoever dies in the field."

25 But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up. 26 And he behaved very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done, whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel.

JEZEBEL – A WICKED LIFE

• 2 Kings 9:35-37 - 35 So they went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands. 36 Therefore they came back and told him. And he said, "This is the word of the Lord, which He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'On the plot of ground at Jezreel dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel; 37 and the corpse of Jezebel shall be as refuse on the surface of the field, in the plot at Jezreel, so that they shall not say, "Here lies Jezebel."

CHOSE TO BELIEVE IN CHRIST

1. A life in Christ is not dependent upon what we have the ability to accomplish.

2. A life in Christ is not dependent upon privilege or personal achievement.

CHOOSE TO BELIEVE IN CHRIST

• Philippians 3:3-6 - 3 For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, 4 though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; 6 concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

PAUL HAD NO CONFIDENCE IN HIS FLESHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• Philippians 3:7-11 - 7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; 10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

JESUS WARNS US TO LIVE FOR SOMETHING WORTH DYING FOR

• Matthew 5:30 - 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

• Matthew 10:39 - 39 He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

JESUS WARNS US TO LIVE FOR SOMETHING WORTH DYING FOR

• Matthew 16:25-27 - 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. 26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.