

# Imperfect Consecration

by John Henry Jowett

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of complete consecration to God, warning against the dangers of imperfect consecration and highlighting the benefits of surrendering all to the Lord.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 37:4, Matthew 19:21, Luke 9:23, Romans 12:1, James 4:7

**Topics:** "Complete Consecration", "Surrendered Life"

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## Description

John Henry Jowett emphasizes the importance of complete consecration to the Lord, using the story of the rich young ruler who consecrated only a part but not the whole as an example. Jowett warns that reserving certain areas of our lives as 'private' and not fully surrendering to the Lord can hinder our relationship with Him, leading to a lack of power, assurance, joy, and peace. He shares how Dr. F. B. Meyer's ministry was affected because he kept back one key from the Lord, symbolizing incomplete consecration. True joy and the 'joy of the Lord' come when we surrender everything to Him, allowing Him to be the sole ruler of our lives and possessions.

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## Transcript

MATTHEW xix. 16-22.

The rich young ruler consecrated a part, but was unwilling to consecrate the whole. He hallowed the inch but not the mile. He would go part of the way, but not to the end. And the peril is upon us all. We give ourselves to the Lord, but we reserve some liberties. We offer Him our house, but we mark some rooms "Private." And that word "Private," denying the Lord admission, crucifies Him afresh. He has no joy in the house so long as any rooms are withheld.

Dr. F. B. Meyer has told us how his early Christian life was marred and his ministry paralyzed just because he had kept back one key from the

bunch of keys he had given to the Lord. Every key save one! The key of one room kept for personal use, and the Lord shut out. And the effects of the incomplete consecration were found in lack of power, lack of assurance, lack of joy and peace.

The "joy of the Lord" begins when we hand over the last key. We sit with Christ on His throne as soon as we have surrendered all our crowns, and made Him sole and only ruler of our life and its possessions.

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