

Judgement Seat - Part 2

by Leonard Ravenhill

At the judgment seat of Christ, our lives will be tested by fire, and only what is done for God will last.

Duration: 35:17

Scripture: Malachi 3:16-18, Matthew 6:19-21, Romans 14:10-12, 1 Corinthians 3:12-15, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Philippians 3:14, 2 Timothy 4:7-8, James 1:12, 1 Peter 1:7, Revelation 22:12

Topics: "Judgment Seat Of Christ", "Eternal Rewards", "Accountability in Faith"

Description

Leonard Ravenhill emphasizes the significance of our lives and actions in the context of the Judgment Seat of Christ, where every believer will be held accountable for their service and devotion to God. He paints a vivid picture of the saints from all ages gathering to witness this moment, contrasting the eternal rewards of faithful service with the loss of those whose lives were built on superficiality. Ravenhill warns against complacency, urging believers to live with eternity in mind and to cultivate a deep, genuine relationship with God that transcends mere outward appearances. He challenges the congregation to reflect on their devotional lives and the impact of their actions, reminding them that only what is done for God will last. Ultimately, he calls for a return to a life of obedience and devotion, preparing for the day when they will stand before Christ.

Transcript

And all our lives start, from the moment you began to witness for Christ, all your service, all your labours for him, they're going to be shown, oh, now listen, listen, none of the filthy world, none of the outcasts of hell are going to be there. Won't it be wonderful that you get there, or will it? When you see all the redeemed of all the ages, when you look there and say, you know, there's Abraham, I didn't think he'd look quite like that, but he's going to be there alright. And all the saints of all the ages are going to be there.

A hymn writer says, from earth's wide bounds and ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearls, streaming a countless host, singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Hallelujah. You know, there used to be an old hymn, and maybe not ten people here could recite it or tell me the first verse, but everybody knows the chorus, when the saints go marching in. You know, they dance to that down in Bourbon Street, that hellhole, with all its prostitutes.

They dance to it every night. When the saints go marching in, they shuffle their feet, listen, that's for the redeemed, it's not for that bunch of scum of the earth. It's for the redeemed, when the saints go marching in, can you imagine them going in? From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates

of pearls, streaming a countless host, singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Hallelujah.

A multitude which no man can number. I'm going to open the gallery and see all the saints of all the ages. Mine, I'll be thrilled to look on Isaiah.

And Jeremiah. And those major prophets, and those minor prophets. And Matthew and Mark and Luke and John and Acts.

Well, everybody in Acts, anyhow. And the Apostle Paul. And Titicus, and all those strange characters.

Won't it be wonderful and say, see, those are the men who walk with Jesus. See, there's Paul, he gave his colossal intellect to God. He wrote about fourteen epistles.

He went over Asia Minor. He didn't sit in a jet and say, you know, how good the Lord is to me, and I'd, no, sorry. He was lashed to the post a hundred and ninety-five times.

He was in weariness and fastings and painfulness and tribulation and distress and famine and peril and nakedness and swords. In tribulation amongst false brethren. In perils of the deep.

Do you think that man's going to get two ounces of reward for a life like that? You'll only get rewarded. Grace is free, but rewards are not free. People say, you're talking about works.

Sure I am, because God did. Jesus did. You know that some saints, again, are going to judge the earth.

Well, that'd be an awesome task. I, I won't want to be one. Maybe I never will.

Maybe I will. Maybe, maybe God will ordain that I should do it. Can you see the holy dead all lined up there? All the saints in the Old Testament, all the saints in the New Testament.

I, I hope the Lord, I can't give him any advice. I, I think I try to in prayer sometimes, but I can't give God any advice. I'd like to see a pocket full of those gorgeous people who prayed.

Oh my, won't that be wonderful? You know, when you see a political convention, they have a sign up from Cincinnati or somewhere. Maybe there'll be signs in heaven. These, these are the prayer warriors.

These are the great sufferers. These are the travellers. These are the missionaries.

These are the failures. Well, anyhow, there's, there's going to be all kinds of people listed in that great day. It's going to be an awesome thing.

And here is a man, he, his life is just made of wood. Very beautiful. Ten thousand dollars wouldn't do much for a, a stack of mahogany these days, would it? But when the fire goes through it, what do you have? All you have is that wood going down until you've got ashes, maybe up to your ankles.

And that's all that is left. I heard a woman say not long ago, Well, praise the Lord, I'm, I'm glad I don't have to account for anything when I go to heaven. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Wait a minute. You can never isolate the scripture by itself. There's no condemnation for past sin.

I'm you mighty glad this morning, I think sometimes, I, I don't wonder that God keep, have to keep saying to Israel, Remember thou was the bondsman in Egypt. Remember your sin, remember your iniquity. Did

you get up this morning and thank God you were pure? Huh? Did you thank him that that devilish fever you used to have for, for smiting cocaine or drugs or something, that he broke the fetter of it? Are you really glad you're not a prostitute now, you're going to be a part of the bride of the Lamb? Are you glad he's removed from your heart covetousness, and bad temper and all those creepy horrible things that used to master you? A man's life, all his ministry, it showed, you see the difference between the wood and the hay and the stubble and the silver and the gold and the precious stones? Wood, hay and stubble are above the ground, they catch the eye.

Silver and gold and precious stones are below the ground, nobody sees them. There's a lot of public ministry in that day that's going to go down in ashes, my brother. You say, well, it doesn't say that the Christians are going to be judged after the book.

Yes, I think it does. Where? In Malachi. It says that God has a book of remembrance.

And I think it would do you good before you go to bed every night this week to ask God, what did you put in your book this, this, today from my life? It doesn't necessarily have to be some outward act, you could worship God on a tractor, you could worship God, it's not the best way, but you can do it still. The fire is going to take the big showy life of that man and burn it, and it's only going to be a bunch of ashes. Wood, hay, well, if you put \$10,000 in hay, you get a lot, yeah, and you get a lot more ashes too when the fire got to it.

And stubble, you could buy half the stubble in Texas maybe for \$10,000, but boy, you'd have a mess when the fire got to it. Instead of ashes to your ankles, or ashes to your knees, it'd be up to your nose maybe, and you couldn't get your way out. But that's what lives are going to be like, wood, hay, stubble.

I used to have trouble with these boys always begging, you know. And it makes you wonder if some Christians do have hearts of flesh, that they won't send them money to keep their jets going. You know, I believe every dime that ever came into a gap here, every dime that ever came to Oral Roberts, anybody else is going to answer for it at the judgment seat of Christ one day.

Jesus talked about these men who go and take widows' houses. Well, that's what they're doing now. They're not satisfied that you give while you're living, they'll ask you to hand your house over to them.

And leave this in your will, and if you do, you'll get a better place in heaven. Don't believe it for a moment, it's a lie from hell. They're going to give an account to God in that day, but I believe we're going to give an account too.

A brother was telling me this week when he got baptized, it was a kind of a sudden thing, and he went down into the water there and suddenly realized he had his wallet in his pocket. Although not many pockets get, you know, not many wallets get baptized. We kind of say, Lord, you look after my sins, I look after the rest.

Every penny you earn since you became the property of Jesus Christ, you'll give an account of before God. He doesn't just take your sins, he takes yourself. He takes the government of your life.

There's an awful lot of money being wrongly invested. You know what I think? I may not be right, I usually am, but I may not be quite right in this, but you know what I think? I think that now the crunch is on the nation. I think it's going to get worse and worse.

This is going to be the roughest year we've ever lived. I told some of you three years ago that an important man called me late at night and said, Brother Ravenhill, the next three weeks in American history will be the next three weeks we're going to live will be the most important in American history. One of the most famous preachers in the country called me at nearly midnight and said, you know what? I've come to this conclusion, God Almighty's already taken his hands off America.

For the simple reason we've had so much light and rejected it. Carter can't make a move to the right. If he makes it to the right, it's still to the left.

Every move he makes is a counter move that makes him sink further and further in the mire. And it's not only true that we live in a world of bankrupt politics, we live in a world, and this is the most tragic of all, of a bankrupt church. Isn't it awesome to think that all this stuff, we sing, all that will be glory for me, friend, you've got one big stumbling block.

Let me rush through this, time's going. Your life is wood, the fire's going to come. Hay, the fire's going to come to it.

Stubble, the fire's going to come to it. But what if your life is silver and gold and precious stones? What is gold a sign of? Gold, I believe, there is a sign of our devotion to God. You wouldn't get much gold for \$10,000 today.

And I could have a small induction crucible here, and put your \$10,000 worth of gold and press buttons and it moves and moves. What happens when you burn gold? Nothing, all you do is change it from solid to liquid, but you don't reduce it. Can you see all the saints of all the ages? And Leonard Ravenhill is standing there before Christ, whose eyes are full of holiness, where the praise is breeding holiness, where there's all the majesty of an awesome God.

And he reads the record of my poor life before all the saints of all the ages. And he puts the fire to my devotional life. Am I just a good showman? I sure like to preach because God called me to preach.

And I don't care how I preach, I don't care whether you believe me either, I'm not responsible for that. I preach out of my heart all I believe and I'd die for it. But say, am I just a showman? What's my secret life like? We were talking just earlier, yesterday I guess, about the woman that came with an alabaster box of ointment.

You know I read that story for years and heard it preached on before ever I realised she came for one reason only, she came to worship Jesus. How do you know? Because she brought the most sacrificial gift that she had. How do you know? Because she never said a word while she was there.

How do you know? Because she said, I won't wash his feet with water, I'll wash them with tears. I won't dry his head, his feet with a gorgeous towel, I'll wipe his feet with the hair of my head. And she poured out that costly fragrance.

And then she wiped his feet again, so what happened? The fragrance she poured out on him came back on her. Why isn't my life more fragrant? Because you don't take time to be holy. Because you think if you stuff all the stuff you get in a guppy, which I'm sure is good, or some other Bible school, that this isn't, no, no, no, no, no.

God isn't going to measure your intellect the size of your hat. He's going to try with his fire, my devotional life. I think again of a statement Dr. Tozer made to me once, he said, Len, you know what? He said, we'll hardly get our feet out of time into eternity, and gaze on eternity with what we bow our heads in shame and humiliation and say, my God, look at all the riches there were in Jesus Christ.

And I've come to the judgment seat almost to pauper. For God has not merely given us Jesus Christ, he's given us all things. And because there isn't enough joy in the house of God, we need entertainment.

Because entertainment is the devil's substitute for joy. Because there isn't enough power in the house of God, people are always looking for the last scientific development, and their hair stands up when they see some fancy show on TV. I think before we point the finger at the world, we better turn to the church and say, look, we better all get sackcloth and ashes and humble ourselves and say, Almighty God, when I see the church in the New Testament, they didn't have stately buildings, they didn't have paid evangelists, they didn't have a lot of money, they didn't have organization, they couldn't get on TV and beg.

But I'll tell you what they did, they turned the world upside down. And I'm embarrassed to be part of the church of Jesus today, because I believe it's an embarrassment to a holy God. Most of our joy is clapping our hands and having a good time, and then afterward we're talking all the drivel of the world.

Oh, to be lost in Him, to be consumed in Him. We mentioned this week a little frail woman, my dear boy that's in South America, many of you heard him preach Paul. I think he has every book that Amy Wilson Carmichael wrote, about 30 of them.

He drenched himself in her teaching. She was a fine little Irish woman. She had a curvature of the spine.

The last three years of her life, they had to lift her in and out of bed, change her diapers. She was helpless, but she loved 350 little children. She wrote this, from subtle love of softening things, from easy choices and weakenings, not thus are spirits glorified, not this way went the crucified.

From all that dimmed thy calvary, O Lamb of God, deliver me. You know, we're overboard on laughter and happiness. There's an old saying in the world, laugh and the world laughs with you.

I change it, I say laugh and the church laughs with you, but weep and you weep alone. You get so near to the heart of God, we sang it on Friday, we did a marvellous Friday night prayer meeting. I wouldn't have taken that Friday night meeting for \$10,000.

God came and we were broken and humiliated before Him. You get so near to the heart of God, that you share His grief over a world and over a backslidden church that we have today. Can He share His sorrow with you? Oh yes, you'll get filled with the Holy Ghost and get the bank balance, that's alright.

If you do, God will hold you to account for it. But are you big enough to say, Lord, in this crucial hour in human history, let me fill up the sufferings of Christ. Are you prepared to challenge demon power and say, listen, I've moved into the place where the Apostle Paul was when he said, I glory in tribulation, in necessities, in reproaches.

Because if you're going to get mature in God, all the dwarfs around you will criticise and sneer at you. And say you're trying to be holier than the rest of us, eh? You say you don't have time for basketball or go and see a baseball game. No, maybe you don't, that's nobody's business but yours and God's.

You'll discover this, the men who have been most heroic for God have been the men with the greatest devotional life. I remind you again that one day I was in the Bible School of Wales and dear Mrs. Rees-Howes, her husband was dead now, we stood on the terrace there and she turned back, she said, you see the room there? I said, yes, I see that room. That door, yes, daddy, meaning her husband, went through that door at six o'clock in the morning and he stayed there till six o'clock at night.

Every day for eleven months except the one day that his mother died. There's the great test. This isn't the greatest job on earth, it's a good job, preaching, it's not the greatest.

I used to wonder why does the Bible say that the last shall be first and the first shall be last? I'll tell you what. I know down at Nacogdoches there, we had six women came to our house a week last Thursday and four of them have a ministry of intercession and they don't strut about it. And they don't get their paces in magazines.

We've mutilated all the hymns, most of Charles Wesley's hymns have thirty stanzas, now they've about six. We've done that with other things. You'll see a little board up in homes, in offices sometimes.

Only one life shall soon be passed. Only what's done for God will last. That's not what the poet wrote.

The poet wrote this, only one life shall soon be passed. Only what's done for God will last. And when I am dying how glad I shall be if the lamp of my life has been burned out for thee.

You think all Christians die happy? Not on your life. They die as miserable sinners, some of them. Why? Because I've misused my time and I've misused, Lord if you'll only spare me to do this.

Some of you prayed that on a hospital bed. Some of you women when you thought you were dying giving birth to a child said, Lord if you spare my life I'll do this, that and the other. Have you done it? The only thing that will time me in victory continually through the blood of Christ is my personal devotion to Him, the Son of God.

My adoration that I give Him my tribute every day. It's more than my service, it's more than giving my money. That I love Him and I adore Him and I magnify Him.

I take Him as it were by the feet. For all the people who worshipped Jesus, the woman came and brought an alabaster box of ointment and she was at His feet. She was at His feet on every occasion.

That woman, if you follow the story through, when He appeared in the upper room they seized Him by the feet. You get a little bit further in the book of Revelation, or if you go to the 6th chapter again, you'll find there it says at the end that the 4 and 20 elders now, they fell down at His feet. Do you wonder Matthew Bridges wrote that lovely hymn, Crown Him with many crowns the Lamb upon His throne.

Crown Him the Lord of Spheres. The potent age of time. Crown Him the Lord of Love.

Crown Him the Lord of Spheres. Power of scepter sways from pole to pole that war may cease and all be prayer and praise. The one thing that's wrong with that world outside is it thinks it's done with Jesus Christ and it hasn't even started with Him yet.

For He stands at the end of the trail for every man, rich or poor, bondman or free, black or white, intellectual or ignoramus. What's your devotional life this morning? Would you like Gabriel to hand me the book of your devotional life for the last month and read it to this fine audience? The gold is going to be

tried to our devotional life. The silver, what is the silver? I guess you can interpret it different ways.

I like to interpret it this way. The book of Proverbs says the tongue of the just is its choice silver. Yeah, every idle word you've spoken, even since you were saved, God has a kind of, you know He doesn't need a tape recorder, but He has an eternal record of it.

You know the gossip, the slander, the criticism, the prejudice. You know when somebody upset you and instead of being quiet, you spilled out just what was on your heart at that moment. Can you think of all those awesome words? Can you think of all the words we've preached to thousands of people over the years and we're going to answer and the fire is going to be put to them? Well, will they behave and stubble or will they abide the fire? The fire shall try every believer's work.

Silver, gold, precious stone. What are the precious stones? Well, when I read that I think of the breastplate that was on the priest, the priest in the Old Testament. It was divided into twelve.

Each stone was a different stone. Each stone had the name of the tribe on it. And he went into the holy place to pray with a breastplate on him.

Oh, well how do you handle this? How do you handle this? Do you know why the world is poor and sick outside? Because we really don't know how to pray, that's why. Because we're satisfied we've left our lousy living and we don't drink and lust and damn ourselves every day. And now we're Christians and we're so content and so happy and so satisfied.

I've said it many times, I've said it again this morning, that no man is greater than his prayer life. I don't care about his organization and his, these boys all have a, what is it, a mailing list. Doesn't worry me.

Let me live with a man a while and share his prayer life and I'll tell you how tall I think he is or how majestic I think he is in God. Supposing I could say to Gabriel this morning, Gabriel, hand this book down. Well, let's preview eternity.

Here we are, millions of people, all the prayer warriors. America has produced some of the greatest. Praying patient of Portland had a floor harder than that.

And at the side of his bed when he knelt he used to pray and pray and pray. And when they washed his body for burial he had great big hooves on his knees like camels, like history says that James in the Bible had camel's knees. At least tradition says that.

Well, it's a living fact that Patience had them. And when they were washing him somebody said, but what abnormal knees, they're calloused, they're heavy with calluses. Yeah, because he used to pray at the side of his bed with energy.

And in that hard floor he wore two grooves like that, about six or seven inches long where he used to pray and make intercession. Praying patient of Portland. Many of you can buy the book.

If you haven't read it, I think it's in the bookstore there, Praying Hyde. John Hyde. I met somebody who used to hear him pray and told me what an amazing thing it was to hear him pray in India.

You know, we think we've got a message, you've got to drop it here and run there and catch a plane here and go there. No, no, that's not the greatest ministry. It's good, God has ordained it.

But the greatest ministry, I'm sure, is the ministry of intercession. Let's ask Gabriel to hand the book down. Let's look at all the apostles and all the saints of all the ages.

There's Finney, look, there's Finney with his amazing revival. There's William Boole, the founder of the Salvation Army. There's John Wesley.

Here are all the great heroic figures, we've all read about them. And here they are all watching while the book is handed down. And somebody's going to read the record.

Would you volunteer and say, well, I'll be happy if you read my record to this multitude? Supposing I say, Gabriel, hand me the record for 1724. When I open the book there, I read 1724. I go down the beast, David Brainard, just a young American, died at the age of 28.

All he possessed was a cowhide that he had tanned and he wrapped himself in it and put a rope around him and he rode over the Susquehanna River there and he followed the Indians. And he had tuberculosis. And he says, I got up this morning and the Indians were still committing adultery there and still drinking there and still beating their tom-toms and still shouting like hell itself.

He came out of the teepee he was sharing and he said there was nowhere to pray. So I went out in the forest. And he said, I knelt and the snow was up to my chin.

And it was a half hour after sunrise. He weighed about 95 pounds. No, he didn't have a heater with him or anything else.

He was just there in the frigid snow half an hour after sunrise. And he said, I did so wrestle in prayer, he says in his archaic English. I wrestled in prayer for about 12 hours.

The sun was setting and then I could only touch the snow with the tips of my fingers. The snow was up to his chin when he started praying. And he makes intercession in a little body that weighed 90 pounds until the thread of his body melted in the snow.

Well, God pity us. We can't get folk to our churches and we've got velvet cushions on the feet and we've got nice stuff on the floor so our darling little knees won't get hurt. And boy, we can't muster a corporal's guard to pray in the average church.

Praying patron of Portland, John Hyde, the great intercessor, David Brainard. When God opens that book of intercession, when he puts the fire to their prayer life, their devotional life, I'll tell you what, there'll be nothing left. It won't be wood, it won't be hay, it won't be stubble.

I discovered this poem just yesterday. It's called His Plan for Me. I didn't have time to memorize it.

When I stand at the judgment seat of Christ and he shows his plan for me, the plan of my life as it might have been had he had his way, and I see how I blocked him here and I checked him there and I would not yield my will, will there be grief in my Savior's eyes, grief, though he loves me still? Would he have me rich and I stand there poor, stripped of all but his grace, while memory runs like a hunted thing down the paths I cannot retrace? Lord of the years that are left to me, I give them to thy hand. Take me and break me and mold me to the pattern that thou hast planned. It's going to be an awesome day.

When I was at school, I sat about two-thirds back there. There was a kind of a level here, then there were some seats up here, and I sat in the first little gallery, as it were. And you know, I didn't mind school too

much, but I was very envious in those days of the school captain.

He worked just across the aisle from me. He was the best soccer player, and I wanted to be that. He was the best at cricket, and I liked cricket.

He was the best runner we had, and I liked running. And he was a very good artist. He was quite a brain.

And you know, if I could ever save up my stomach aches, I saved them till the day before the final examination. But my mother was smart. She knew I was saving them up.

I don't know how. And I'd get up that morning and say, Mother, oh, I don't feel good at all. I think I should stay at home.

She'd say, OK, you can stay at home tomorrow, but not today. But today was the day of judgment. And you know, the things would be put down on the board there, and as soon as they were down, Renton would get it.

His name was Renton, and he'd get his pen, and he'd dash through it. Now he was through the first two or three subjects before I'd even got the things read. Oh, he and another guy that were there, they used to say, boy, it's exams.

And they knew they'd be number one and number two, and every year I was at school, they were number one and number two on the chart when it came out. These boys were always at the top. They had no fear of the judgment.

They were prepared for it. I still believe in the majesty of that eternal court, with the king of kings, and the lord of lords, and the judge of judges. I still think there'll be an awesomeness about it, so majestic.

You see, there's no possibility of any rehearsal. And what? There's no possibility of any repetition, because again, this is the final judgment. And to some, God will say, come ye blessed, and others, he'll have said, depart from me.

I don't believe there'll be any envy. I won't do it, but I could remind you that there are at least five crowns to be given in reward. Paul says that the lord will give him a crown of righteousness, which he says, the lord will not only give to me, but all them that love his appearing.

There's a crown for the martyrs, those who have died today and have died other days. There's a crown to be given to them. Crowns, crowns, crowns.

We will all be the same in heaven. There'll be great distinctions in heaven. You can't think that the dying thief, he'll be in heaven all right, because he said, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

And sure enough, God will do that. Jesus said he would. But he'd wasted his life.

Take just one character, John Wesley. He was saved soundly when he was 35 years of age. Turned 35 round, it makes 53.

Put 53 and 35 together, makes 88, the time he died in 1891. The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day, and there have I no violence, but he cast all my sins away. Fine.

But are you suggesting that the man who got in on the last tick of the clock is going to have the same reward as John Wesley? Yeah, Wesley made an awful lot of money. Do you know what he did with it? He built orphanages, he built churches, he printed Bibles, he printed hymn books. There was no time wasted in his life.

It was methodical, systematic. He went to dinner with the greatest man in English literature, and the man said, now you've finished dinner, let's fold our legs under the table, he said. You know, cross your legs under the table and let's just have a nice time of conversation.

And Wesley said, I'm sorry, I have to go. Oh, but it is not yet 9 o'clock. No, it's not.

Well, why are you going? He said, I have an appointment in the morning at 4 o'clock. At 4 o'clock? Tomorrow morning? Every morning of my life, he said. With who? With God.

He disciplined his life, he disciplined his body in eating, he disciplined his hand in his pocket. We shall stand at the judgment seat of Christ. An awesome prospect for any of us.

For the hymn writer says, the eternal glories gleam afar to nerve my faint endeavor. So now to watch, to work, to war, and then to rest forever. We had a lady in a church that I pastored, actually, I was assistant pastor.

And the lady was the wife of the pastor, Dr. Fawcett. And she didn't have a great voice, but they often asked her to sing. And she used to sing the same old hymn every time.

And the last verse of that hymn said this, he was not willing that any should perish. Am I his follower? And can I live longer at ease with these souls going downward, lost for the lack of the help I might give? He was not willing that any should perish. Master, forgive, and inspire us anew.

Banish our worldliness, help us to ever live with eternity's values in view. Said that great man who birthed that revival, God, stamp eternity on my eyeballs. You know, if we can't live as a different breed of people on this earth, we've no right to live here.

We shouldn't be affected by changing customs, or changing styles, or changing opinions, or whether the stock market goes up or down, or whether the clouds are gathering for, that doesn't make any odds. We ought to live every day as though we come out of another world into this world with the power of that world upon us. To live and speak and move and have our being in Jesus Christ.

It's going to be an awesome day. Have you kind of figured how you'll get on when you stand there? Before all the saints of all the ages, and you and I, to stand there alone on the dais and be judged for the deeds done in the body, for every aspect of our lives, for our praying, for our giving, for our living, for our talking. No, it's not so simple to be a Christian.

After all, it's a majestic thing. I remember crossing a square in the city of Bath in the 1940s. I saw two very fine young ladies.

Well, one was a young lady, the other was only a girl. And they were erect and beautifully dressed, and they marched across that square and I thought, there's something different about those girls. And then when I went round the other side, I discovered it was, they were princesses at that time.

Our present Queen of England, Queen Elizabeth, and her sister Margaret, it was the princesses of the royal family. And you know, there was a dignity about them very different from anybody else who walked. And the Word of God says, as He was, so are we in this world.

We are to live eternity conscious in time, ready to be cut off at any moment. Supposing you were cut off in this moment, would you like your life story read before all the millions in eternity? Do you think you might shrink when you hear how God used David Brainerd or John Wesley or some little washerwoman down there that had a life of intercession? Or a little woman in Ireland and she had two shops. And this shop, it paid all the family expenses.

And this shop, she saved all the money for missions. And she sent one, two, three, four of her children to the mission fees and she financed them all. Man, she's going to have a reward one day, isn't she? Because she was doing it as unto Him.

And I don't care, there's no burden too heavy, there's no situation too hard for the one that you love. And if we're love-controlled, love-motivated, love-energized, it'll be all right when we stand up there. Because if there's anything about love, one thing about it, it's obedient.

And if we get back to a people who are really baptized with obedience, submissive to the total will of God, not concerned about human opinion, not asking for more to spend prodigally on ourselves, but say, Oh God, I want this life of mine adjusting so when I stand in your awesome presence, as James says, we shall not be ashamed at His appearing.

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