

Leonard Ravenhill's Memorial Service

by Leonard Ravenhill

The memorial service for Leonard Ravenhill celebrated his life, legacy, and unwavering faith in God while encouraging others to continue his mission of evangelism and prayer.

Duration: 1:15:44

Scripture: 2 Timothy 4:1

Topics: "Memorial Service"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher speaks about a man who lived his life solely to exalt God's name. This man's true wealth was not in material possessions, but in the lives he transformed and the stories he left behind. The preacher emphasizes the importance of living with eternity in mind and standing before God's judgment seat. He shares a personal experience of being with the man in his final moments, where they had a deep connection and understanding. The sermon concludes with a reminder to finish the race and complete the work that God has given us.

Transcript

Today in honoring the memory of our brother and more importantly the Christ who served and loved and we want this to be a have a note of victory not of despair because we mourn not as those who have no hope but we rejoice and that death is swallowed up in victory and those of you who knew Leonard and I'm assuming all of you did know that he loved good music he loved grand hymns he loved to sing them he loved to quote from them and he could quote from them quite prolifically he knew a vast number of great lyrics so throughout the course of this service we would like to sing some of the songs that that he loved and I know would love to hear here today and so we're going to ask you if you will to take your hymnals and if you'll turn to page 161 and I know you just sat down but I really think we ought to stand to sing this song if you will and we'll sing we'll sing verses 1, 2, and 4. And he wants to be with me in Garden Valley. He is revived by David Raymond Hill of Gig Harbor, Washington, and fellow believers. We all know brother Raymond Hill from many different perspectives, knowing from his many aphorisms.

There are too many to list, but some that are so significant. A man who is intimate with God will never be intimidated. Get on with thy bread, don't be burdened.

Sin is not the bread, there's room, cancels. We remember him because of the God that he exalted. So many were the passengers of Scripture.

These are some verses that none spoke more clearly than he has taught me from my youth. Thy righteous is also like you ever heard. When Raymond Hill preached, you heard him read in the gear of that church.

Just sing the King, the Lord of Hosts. Then play one of the sermons. Then said I, here am I. Then this past year has passed.

We thank you that in Jesus Christ, the One Potent, the King of kings. The Lord who stands above all kings. We thank you that in the glory of his name, he exalted in life.

There is no greater asset than his name. Leonard Raymond Hill, and that without question. He was a great evangelist.

He was a great prophet. He was a great teacher. He was a great author.

All of that. He had a great gun. And I fought him.

So I was meditating, I don't know why. I kept thinking of Proverbs 31. And I said, Lord, do you read that passage? But Proverbs 31 became so strong in my mind, I turned.

This can find a virtuous woman, for her Christ has faithfully trusted her. So that each of us. She made with herself coverings of tapestry.

Her clothing is silk and purple. When he says among the elders of the land. Her children rise up in color black.

He was a great man. But not only did he have a great wife. But he had three great sons.

That he took great delight in. You and I have. To hear them as they share.

In our reflections. Upon their culture. David the oldest.

Pastor of the Vineyard Church in Gate Mark, Washington. Phillip the second. Who is curator of the National Museum.

At the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. And Paul. The youngest. I hope.

That he was a missionary for 30 years. Most of those years. In Paraguay.

Many in Argentina. I am David. The elders are going to come and share with us.

That's all we can pray. Then we'll open up the book. Just one small note of correction there.

Paul is the oldest. I'm the middle. Phillip is the youngest.

I'm not sure if there is any prophetic significance to what happened. Paul asked that I speak first. We are both preachers.

I have a tiny head. Preachers ought to say something. I'd like to share a portion of scripture from 2 Timothy.

A book that my father loved very greatly. Often quoted. 2 Timothy chapter 4. Verse 5. If you be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, and fulfill your ministry.

Dad seemed to also be aware. He was not good at preaching. The word that Paul has come.

They released the oxen at the end of its day of labor. To release it from the burden. Carts.

Paul seemed to understand that the time in his own life was coming to an end. As a man that he labored. He toiled.

He spent many many hours. If you like carrying the load. The work of the ministry.

And now he's being released. From the chaff if you like. The second way in which the word was used was to release the slave.

The slave that was being held in bondage. Held in captivity. The prison cell.

That Jesus Christ abounds. To the presence of the Lord. The word was also used of a releasing the corpse.

In order to move it. Positioned. Paul again recognized that he was.

Leaving behind this earthly tent. And he was to take the journey. Of being released.

To that ultimate dwelling place. And then finally the word was used to release. A cargo vessel.

From its warrants. A cargo vessel that was. Home port.

Complete. Fully laden. Attached.

Finished. And setting sail. For a new destination.

Again the presence of God himself. I want to share just a little instance from my. Old life.

When I was 18 years of age. In Bible school. I was on what they called the.

The. And the three of us boys. And I. My father came into the room.

Picked me something. On the. Inside of the.

Little. Clipping. 34.

Years ago. 33 at least. And.

This is. What it said. Build me a son of God.

Who will be strong enough to know. When he is weak. Brave enough to face himself.

Build me a son. And to know himself. Lead him I pray.

That under these stresses. He'll let him. Learn to stand up in the storm.

He'll let him learn compassion. Build me a son. Whose heart will be clear.

Whose goal will be high. A son who will master himself. He'll never forget him.

One who will reach into the future. These are his. And I pray.

So that he may always. Be serious. And yet never take himself too seriously.
Give him humility. So that he may always remember this. Then I his father.
Will dare to whisper. As much as I can say about my. Father.
That I would. Like to. Read to.
A poem that I. Felt. Summarized his life. I wrote it sitting by his bedside.
I knew a man. Who gave his life. To see a revival fire.
He prayed by day. He prayed by night. To see a glorious bride.
His heart. Was there with the God. For 87 years he lived.
He knew one day. He'd have to stand. Before God's judgment seat.
And so he ran. To win the prize. His mission.
The fortune. That he left behind. Was not.
Their stories. Yet I'm told. This that I have had.
Of knowing. I heard this morning. The last thing he'd want.
One sentence. Probably like. Joy for all his sorrows.
And fruits of all. Daily readings. Daily.
I had a friend. Used to. Speak in silence.
Speak to the past. Of the day. And.
Seems easy to hurt your eyes. He left the. Fullness of delight.
Of the. Lord's day. In turn.
The glory. In his preaching. In his.
In his. In his study. In.
David Livingston. I left. When I was in.
So I. And. As a beggar. Let me.
See that. Thing. In a church.
He advocated. I mean. David.
Represented. A spiritual way. David.
Represented. David is. Represented.

Rich fruit of God. We've gone away. Of the precepts.
We've gone away. Of the. Proverbs.
In music. I'm preaching. In the.
The only. Potent thing. The only.
Potent thing. He. Wants.
For me. As I. Think today. This is.
This is what I. What I think. Maybe. Somehow.
He gets. Carried away. Because his.
His theme. Was greater. Greater than himself.
He. He would say to us. Today.
Knowing what he knows. Forget his mind. God.
Is your limit. The only. Possibility.
There in that part of the statement. I think it's. St. Francis.
But I could be wrong on that. But the statement. Was something to the effect.
To always preach. The gospel. Use words when necessary.
And I think that. Summarizes. Certain letters.
Life. We all stand for. Moments.
For. Whether. There is.
Something. Is. That.
I. It's. The man. That God.
Has. Things. About.
The man. He has. One great.
Person. Why. He.
Has. Removed. Everything.
He. Learned. Prevail.
He is. A student. Of the word.
He has. A vital. Living message.

For a lost. World. He is.
A man of faith. Who expects. Results.
He works. In the anointing. Of the Holy.
Spirit. Of God. And it is.
My. Urge. To.
Belief. And conviction. That no man.
Ever met. Those requirements. And those prerequisites.
And yet I. Am reminded. That this. Really is.
But the. Of a life. As an artist.
Takes. His canvas. And his oils.
And his brush. And he. Spends weeks.
And months. Painting his picture. It's never.
Complete. Until he carries it. To the brain shop.
And. He puts a frame around it. So it is.
In that. That is the frame. All along.
Lens. Picture of life. And all of us.
That are here today. We knew him. From a different angle.
From a son perspective. All of us. From a different perspective.
And I would. Be totally unable. To justice.
But there are some things. That I do. Look.
It's. I see. One who not only proclaims.
I see a number of me. A man. In which the.
I see an honored man. A man. That's been honored.
In every picture. I see in him. A heart.
They came. From literally around the world. Not just to.
Listen. At his aphorisms. At his teachings.
But. They were the most. But they loved him.

He all of a sudden. To thirst and enter right. A man.
That I. I believe. Live. At 81 years of age.
He was hungry. Gave his soul. Here is.
A man. Whirling his pride. Both of wealth.
So enchained. Jesus. Glorious.
King of kings. But here is one. My.
But William Homer. Wrote this. That speaks of his hunger.
And his thirst for God. Just a great gift of God. These are the things.
That I see. In that picture. But some way or another.
I believe. That. There is a passage of scripture.
That is Paul's. Final charge. That David read.
Earlier. In second Timothy. That could very easily be.
I believe that. I charge thee. Therefore.
Before God. And the Lord. Be instant.
In season. Out of season. Do the work of an evangelist.
Make full proof. Of thy mission. Henceforth.
There is weight. Upon it all. And also.
Do thy diligence. To come shortly. Paul was coming.
To the end of his life. And he is making. The farewell address.
Making. And what a charge it was. For it was a charge.
Embraced. Both. Earth.
And heaven. Time. Eternity.
He reflects back. The future experiences. As he looks.
At his life. Things that I see. Paul speaks of the things.
That he envisions. Flying up. Now ready.
To be offered. Heaven. You can play on any of those words.
For I am. For I am now. Paul says I'm ready.

Six years. And the minister of Paul. Received a message.
That there. I'm not ready. But Paul could say I'm ready.
Let it ring. And he'll just say. I am ready.
Because. Many years ago. As a fourteen.
Fifteen year old lad. He. Started to preach.
That next day. The things he envisioned. I am.
Some of you. Some of you have got. He called Paul in on Thursday.
From the keys of his automobile. With him. Told him that he was.
Getting too old. To come in. Here.
He had had that. Then. When they realized.
That he was at home. And she said. I sense.
That he lived. First. There was sadness.
But then all of a sudden. But not only did he speak. Of the things he envisioned.
But he speaks of the fight. That he encountered. I am Paul.
Paul. Paul. Compares.
The Christian. To warfare. The Christian life.
Is not a picnic. Between evil. Good.
Righteousness. It is a. There was no word. That meant more.
To brother Lance. I was sitting high. In the restaurant one day.
There are three things. Lost. From.
Initiative. Intensity. Eternity.
And then he says. There are two things. Lost in the feud.
Honesty. And. Integrity.
He lived. In light. Of eternity.
It was a final thing. He laid hold. Of that eternity.
Paul. Or the writer. He who says.
The afflictions. In the Christian life. The early years.

Of his ministry. He knew what it was. To go.

Until. God came. To town.

And the spirit. Of God moved. He knew what it was.

To hurt. To be sick. Just finished.

Preaching a meeting. He spent all week. Preaching on.

Chicago. Years. And years ago.

The hotel. Caught on fire. And then he jumped.

From the third floor. His heels. Were so.

Broken up. That they were just like. He looked up.

And he said. The contingent. They're.

The air. But I pray. That he'll sit and preach.

He spent hours. Praying over that message. Because.

It was serious. Lives. Souls.

Fought a good fight. Paul said that. I know he with my heart.

Lately could say. I fought a good fight. Get closer.

I stood there. I. Look into his. Soles.

And I don't. What. It was.

To finish. With his sales. There was something to think.

Envision. That fight. The truth.

About God. The truth coming from the. Pen in there.

Of. His convictions. the faith he endured, but the favor he expected.

Henceforth there is later for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge of the world, hath bestowed upon me. One of his favorite themes was the judgment seat of Christ, as you well know. He spoke often about it and said that's the last thing he'd ever do.

Nothing meant more to him than the judgment seat of Christ. While it is a solemn, serious task, it also has another aspect. I want you to know Paul expected that favor.

There's one last thing. The faith he envisioned, the fight he encountered, the things he enjoyed, the faith he endured, the favor he expected, but the praise. Funny thing Paul got.

He knew what was ahead. He knew they needed help and encouragement. To be faithful until the trumpet would sound, to preach the word, to be instant in season and out of season.

The lovers of Pyramid Land wasn't a charter. He knew how to be used by the Holy Spirit to bring conviction in our lives, but he knew how to be courageous. He said, you know, he's learned to communicate with us when he meets something he's not.

He could use those same sounds to communicate, but never one time has he used those sounds to communicate. From somewhere in the earth, while in the corner of my heart, I have those words of Oswald Smith. In the back of my mind, the brother man gave to me, written by Charles, and a lion drawn, and under it he says, Preacher, underline that.

I suggest that you place this in the back of your Bible and read it once each time you're going to preach. And all of us preachers, servants, followers of Christ, may we commit ourselves to that. Shall I, for fear of mortal man, the Spirit's course in me restrain, or understand in need and word be a true witness to my word? Or, by a mortal's crown, shall I conceal the word of God most highly? How then before thee shall I dare stand, or how then? Shall I, to soothe the unholy throng, soften thy truth, and smooth my tongue, to gain earth's guilty joys? What then is he whose scorn I dread, whose wrath or hate makes me afraid? Yea, let me amaze, since thou, give me thy strength, O God of God.

Give let man's love, or thy faithful witness, to stix. I can do all. Would you take your seat.

Turn with us to hymn number 142. As Dallas home comes to leave, there is a valley. Stand with me.

Would you bow with us for a prayer. Fathers, thank you for being able to look at the light, the teachings of Christ. Help us, dear God, to accept the challenge, to preach the word, to be interested in seeing, to improve, to improve.

Help us to leave this place today. Dallas, Romania.

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