

# What Is Your Life - Part 8

by Leonard Ravenhill

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*This sermon emphasizes the importance of seeking a deeper experience with God, beyond just being thankful for salvation, and provides examples from Scripture to illustrate this point.*

**Duration:** 9:44

**Scripture:** Luke 9:23, John 14:27, Acts 20:24, Romans 6:7, 2 Timothy 4:7

**Topics:** "Spiritual Growth", "Surrender To God"

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## Description

This sermon emphasizes the need for believers to move beyond just being saved and living a basic Christian life. It delves into the importance of seeking a deeper spiritual experience, surrendering fully to God, and allowing Him to work in our lives to remove bondage, fear, and weakness. The sermon also highlights the dangers of envy and jealousy in hindering spiritual growth, using biblical examples like Saul and Paul to illustrate the consequences of such attitudes.

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## Transcript

people in the world tonight than ever in the history of the world. What are we doing? Sitting on the campfire thanking God we're saved and we've given up our lousy drug lives or prostitution or some other thing. Great, great, but there's more than that to it.

I remember a night I walked down an aisle in a church in England. I got saved when I was 14. I read David Brennan's life when I was about 16 that knocked me for a loop.

I was about 19 when I read a great American book by the name of Power Through Prayer by E.M. Bounds and I was a youth leader in the church and I got people to pray. I got the youth to pray. We met Friday nights and we prayed.

We went to the church seven o'clock Sunday morning and we prayed. We saw some people in the community saved and yet there was one thing that ate me up. It was another fellow in the church.

I was a youth leader but boy he was more efficient and he was breathing down my neck and people were talking about him and so forth and I got so filled with envy that my spiritual life began to shake. I remember being in a meeting where the preacher said there's something more than salvation. There's something more than cleansing.

As wonderful it is, it's indwelling and beyond indwelling there's anointing. I walked down the aisle of that church. Everybody said I wonder why Ravenhill went out.

Well I went out because I knew that I'd got an inward enemy worse than any outward enemy. Somebody came to pray with me that was a custom there and the fellow was rather startled. He said well Len what do you want? I said I want God to make Romans chapter 6 verse 7 real in my life.

He said you mean Romans 6 6. I said I mean Romans 6 7. He said no it's 6 6. Well maybe for you 6 7 for me. What's Romans 6 7? He that is dead is freed from sin. I'm tired of bondage.

I'm tired of fear. I'm tired of weakness. I'm tired of vacillating.

I'm tired of being hot and then cold, strong and then weak. I want to get rid of the old self life. I want to die right here.

Let me tell you this. An experience of God that costs nothing does nothing and it's worth nothing. Two simple things.

I don't know why I thought of this man. He came and joined our Revival Party in 1932. That's a good way back.

He was standing in a meeting one night. He had his lovely sweetheart at the side of him. She'd been the means of his conversion.

He'd been a fighting, drinking, swearing, lusting, lying man. And this beautiful lady led him to Christ. They'd been engaged about a year.

He'd bought a house full of furniture. They got a house in view and he was standing there and they were singing a hymn. And as they sang it he turned it over in his mind and thought boy I've sung this but it's had no meaning until night.

And for some reason the song leader said let's sing this last stanza again. Here I give my all to thee, friends and time and earthly store. Friends, that's my sweetheart.

Time, that's my life. Earthly store. I've got a room full of, house full of furniture.

Here I give my all to thee, friends and time and earthly store, soul and body thine to be only thine forevermore. As they went down the steps of the church he said to her sweetheart I got news for you. Is it good? He said well I think it is.

What is it? He said well we're postponing our marriage till I get up. Postponing what? Well I had to make up my mind whether I loved you more than the Lord and the Lord says he wants me to serve him. I'm not in a state to serve him.

I need some discipline. I need some correction. I need some authority over me.

I need to study the word of God and it's going to cost a lot. And even if you give me up, you can have the furniture but I'm going to follow the Lord. He became one of the outstanding men of the day in England at that time.

Okay, let me quote the final scripture, 2 Samuel there, where Paul is being chased, pardon me, where Saul is chasing after David because he's got envious of David, the songwriter, envious of David who can throw the enemy down. And he chases after David and tries to find him. And you remember how David's men cut a piece of the royal garment off and they showed it and then another time they shot it over the valley.

And David says hey King Saul, you know you're acting the fool over there and I could have killed you. Now here I am and you're chasing me, he said, like a flea over the mountain or like a partridge. And the king suddenly saw the idiocy of it.

I profess to be a king and I'm eaten up with envy and jealousy. I shall be languishing in my palace and there I am over these rotten roads and climbing up scraggy mountains and dying of thirst when my men kick up the dust, all because I'm eaten up with envy and jealousy. And just before he died, Saul said this, with all his royal living I have erred exceedingly and played the fool.

That's Saul in the Old Testament. Here's Saul in the New Testament, now Paul. He's come to the end of the journey.

He's been whipped and lashed and tormented in perils of the deep, in peril of his own countrymen, a night and a day in the deep. Once I was stoned, flashed, I suffered shipwrecked in weariness, in fastings, in painfulness. And he writes it all off as a huge joke because he says, number one, none of these things move me.

And number two, he says, I'll light affliction which is but for a moment. And he doesn't crumble up like King Saul looking over a wrecked life. He looks over his life of triumph and deliverance and he says this, I have fought a good fight and finished my course and kept the faith.

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness. You know tonight could be the turning point in your life tonight. If you not only come to the cross but get on it.

Get rid of your pettiness and your jealousy. Get rid of that erratic living that you get on top when you come to a conference and whoop you'll be down in the valley next week. That should not happen if the Christ is indwelling me.

He's the same yesterday to the end forever. He keeps me in peace. He keeps me in joy.

He keeps me in power. Okay, 35 years of age, John Wesley was converted. About a quarter to nine on the 24th of May 1738, about a quarter to nine I felt my heart strangely warmed.

He was a scholar, he was a gentleman, he was a clergyman in the Church of England like his brother and like George Whitfield. But when he was born again, England was born again. Across the English Channel was one of the most vicious atheists by the name of Voltaire.

And he said, huh, that thing they talked about in England, why? He said, a hundred years from now there'll only be Bibles in museums. You missed it I think, don't you? Only the Bibles in museums. You see a bloody revolution swept over France and they tossed the monarchy into the garbage can and they put the tricolor up, red white and blue, liberty and fraternity and equality.

And Leckie is a secular historian, not a church historian. And Leckie says this, remember the bloody revolution that swept over France and swept the monarchy into the garbage can was going to sweep over England and God raised up too many, raised up three. Whitfield was the final leader, Charles Wesley, John Wesley.

Okay, John died in 1791, converted at 35, turn that round it makes 53, add them together it makes 88. Because he was saved at 35, preached for 53 years. And you know what he left when he died? He left a handful of books, a faded Geneva gown that he preached in all over England, six silver spoons somebody gave him, six pound notes, give one to each of the poor men that carry me to my grave.

And that's all he left, six pound notes, six silver spoons, a handful of books, a Geneva gown and something else, what was it the other thing? Oh I know something else he left, the Methodist Church. He could have died as rich as your famous TV preacher Sunday. Sure he made money and he built a...

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