



## **An Invaluable Lesson for both Our Youth and Our Youth at Heart**

### **An Article Authored by a “Senior Citizen”**

Before sharing this lesson however, three quick preambles:

- For those not succumbing to ageism (prejudice or discrimination on the grounds of a person's age), they can be blessed by knowing the wisdom of their elders is a treasure to be seized upon.
- Assuming one's emotional IQ advances with age, one is able to synthesize decades of experience and share it with love. Counsel that can withstand many things, whether they be changes of fads, recessions, technology shifts, etc.
- While this lesson can benefit young men and women, assuming they can either conceptually grasp it or act on faith of another's wisdom on their behalf, it can also greatly benefit what society says are seniors. I'm an example, being sixty-five and having had recently an epiphany of something that will catapult my life, as a result of studying some ancient wisdoms again.

**The Lesson?** “He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. Matthew 10:39.

There is SO much to this. The first one jumps right out, a matter of priority. It is all so very common for us to get wrapped up in the “here and now”. Getting past the chemistry test, hoping Lori says yes to the dance invitation, getting that new car, acing the job interview, having the beautiful home. If one is not willing to make all of this secondary, yes, even to give it all up if required, to follow our faith, we lose. Oh, it may appear for a time that you've gotten both. Trust me, the price you pay now may be invisible to you. The price you pay in the long run is incalculable.

Your goals for yourself, your career, your family may well be grand and noble. Will you accept the challenge to see they reach the definition of grand and noble? And if so, doing so only by being holy, meaning won and attained by God's principles? You won't want them or even hang onto them if won otherwise.

Here is further counsel on the subject:

- “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.” Ecclesiastes 12:13.





- "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." Psalms 1.
- "Without a fitness for holiness, we cannot receive holiness." Mary Baker Eddy, from the Chapter titled Prayer.

One of the many challenges I faced early on was giving too much consideration to what others thought. And by association with some who were caustic to my cause, I fell prey to having my priorities shifted. How I wish I had taken this counsel from the Bible on those occasions: "Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols?" II Corinthians 6:14-18.

A note to my fellow senior citizens: Assuming we are already living by the first rule as noted in Mathew 10:39, how are we viewing our last few years or decades? Here are three viewpoints. If I've missed one, please do share. Regardless of where you find yourself today, bless you for sharing your wisdom. And God will bless you with fresh insights as well if you're asking.

1. We've ridden life's biggest waves and now we're riding the comfortable one to shore where we'll enjoy the beach.
2. We're going to leverage our experiences and ride higher, as the book "Live Life in Crescendo: Your Most Important Work Is Always Ahead of You" so nicely suggests.
3. While humanly one may adopt either of the options above, ones spiritual growth continues and increasingly raise awareness of their timeless identity as God's child as stated in the first story of creation in Genesis. (This antedates the mortal form of self, and candidly this is a metaphysical standard.)

**In closing, a toast to all your future successes!**

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