Sermon Notes for October 13, 2013

The King Has One More Move

Philippians 3:4-9 and 3:20-4:1

Introduction

A trophy is anything you can get other people to look at which will make them say, “Wow”. John Ortberg

The problem with trophies is they just sit around collecting dust.

I. The trophies of this earth are temporary.

If we are building our self-worth on earthly trophies, we are on shaky ground.

“If you are not enough before the gold medal, you’re not enough with it.” Cool Runnings

Paul collected “religious trophies”.

“If someone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.” Philippians 3:4-6

Then Paul met Christ on the road to Damascus and everything changed.

“But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.” Philippians 3:7-9

II. God rewards faithfulness.

“We will all appear before the judgment seat of Christ that each one may receive what is due him for things done while in the body, whether good or bad.” II Corinthians 5:10

The Bible uses the word crown (stephanos) to describe the reward we will receive.

- The Victor’s Crown – II Timothy 2:5
- The Crown of Righteousness – II Timothy 4:8
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12 and Revelation 2:10
- The Crown of Glory – I Peter 5:4

In the end, they all go back to Jesus. Revelation 4:10-11
God rewards faithful service.

“He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me.
Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.” Matthew 10:40-42

The one who prays, the one who gives and the one who goes are all rewarded.

III. The trophies that matter most are the person I am becoming and the people I am influencing for Christ.

Paul set his heart on knowing Christ. Philippians 3:7-11

The author of Hebrews shared the same passion.

“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us and let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith.” Hebrews 12:1-2

When Paul thought about crowns, he thought about people.

“But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends!” Philippians 3:20-4:1

“For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy.” I Thessalonians 2:19-20

Conclusion

We were made for another world.

- Our citizenship is in heaven.
- Our bodies will be changed to be like his glorious body.
- We will be reunited with those we love in Christ.

That is worth living for!