

THE EMPTINESS OF SUCCESS



Success is often overrated, in fact success is usually emphasized as the main reason for existing. With the increase in suicide among successful people, the reality of the emptiness brought by success becomes vividly clear.

The tenth leading cause of death in this country is suicide. Every day an average of sixty Americans choose to take their own lives. High suicide mortality has been found to occur among physicians and dentists. The shocking truth is that suicide is most prevalent among successful people.

Jesse Livermore — The greatest bear in Wall Street committed suicide.

Leon Fraser — The president of the Bank of International Settlement committed suicide.

Ivar Krueger — The head of the world's greatest monopoly committed suicide.

All of these men learned how to be successful, but none of them learned how to live. Success by itself is empty! There is nothing that can fill the void that is inside one's soul.

The Bible tells of the fruitlessness of success without fulfillment: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36)

Many people spend an entire lifetime following the goal to be successful only to experience at the end of their lives that success cannot be taken with them. "...Naked came I out of my mother's womb and naked shall I return thither..." (Job 1:21).

The emptiness inside each person is created by sin. Everyone that is honest before God would admit that they have sinned. "As it is written, There is none righteous no not one" (Romans 3:10).

The result of sin is the void which is created inside one's soul. Sin separates us from God. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

The payment we deserve for our sin is death, separation from God in a place called hell. Fortunately, the Bible goes on to tell us forgiveness for sin is a gift which Jesus has paid by dying in our place. Salvation is a free gift from Jesus Christ. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8&9).

No amount of success, rituals, traditions or religion can pay for our sin. Nothing that we can do can pay for our sin. Only death can pay for our sin. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

Jesus took your place by dying on the cross. He was buried and rose again the third day demonstrating His power over death. Knowing that Jesus has died in our place, salvation is a free gift and that in no way can I pay for my sin through good deeds or works. If someone came to you with a gift, and showed it to you, that doesn't mean you have the gift . . . until you accept it. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

Receiving Jesus Christ as your Saviour is a simple transaction. It is by praying to God and admitting that you are a sinner, realizing you cannot pay for your sins and telling Jesus that you will put all of your trust in Him for salvation (Romans 10:9&10).

The emptiness in your soul can be filled with Christ. Forgiveness is available. Wouldn't you like to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour? If you would, you could pray a prayer like this:

Dear Lord,

I realize that I am a sinner and that I cannot pay for my sin myself. I accept the payment you made on the cross by dying in my place. I believe you died, were buried, and that you rose again, victorious over death. Please save me. Thank you for saving my soul. Amen.

If you have prayed this prayer and trusted Christ in your heart, I would like to send you some additional information.

You may write to: