



EXCERPT OF SERMON

Sunday 22 January 2023

Title of Sermon : **So Precious.**
Minister : **Bruce Woolard**
Reading : **1 Peter:3-25**

*“But with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.”
1 Peter 1:19*

INTRODUCTION:

What is more precious than gold, silver and diamonds? Something of value is considered precious. Precious metals are sought after commodities. Empires have been built with the discovery and acquiring of earths treasures. But, I ask again, what is more precious than silver, gold and diamonds?

This past week I again witnessed mothers and grannies shedding tears as their precious children began their twelve formal years of education. The opening of schools, every year, is precious to observe, especially for the five and six year olds starting “big school”. Mothers and grannies cry because their precious baby child is growing and leaving behind the formative years of development that will become a faded memory.

This past week I was asked by my brother, who has bladder cancer and fading eyesight, to help him by driving him to various appointments. I could scarcely afford the time given my pastoral duties. Creating time for emergencies and important matters is something one learns to manufacture in the ministry. My brother left this past week to live and die in the Cape. His prognosis is bleak, so I managed to assemble all my remaining siblings for a final tea and farewell. Those moments will be etched on my mind for the rest of my life. Why you may ask? Because it was so very precious.

My dear friends, don't take time for granted. Time is precious and who you spend that time with is more precious than diamonds. You, yes, you, are precious because there never will be another you. The uniqueness of your personality is of great value to God. Stop devaluing your worth as a person. Every soul is sacred, unique and valuable, so valuable that God sent His Son to shed His precious blood for your redemption. He paid the price to purchase you from a world that attaches little worth to human life.

Page 2/...

Your soul is immortal, it will not and cannot die. Your body dies but you, yes, the real you, will continue to live in eternity.

There are three simple but precious elements of thought that I wish to emphasise:

1. **Prayer is Precious**

Why is prayer precious?

- A. Because it **reflects** our relationship with our God.
- B. Because it **deflects** the enemies attack on our emotions.
- C. Because it **projects** our hope for the future in eternity with God.

2. **People are Precious**

The people you share your life with will one day leave. Life without them will be tough, therefore, treasure the “now time” you have with them. People are fragile, handle them with loving care. You don’t want to live with regrets. People are precious.

- A. Because of **limited** time.
- B. Because of **lasting** memories.
- C. Because of **loving** moments.

3. **Promises are Precious**

Keep your promises. God has given to us some precious promises.

- A. **Souls** are guaranteed salvation based on the atoning and precious Blood of Christ.
- B. **Special** promises in relation to our faith and Christian life are numerous and fill the pages of the Bible.
- C. **Spectacular** promises of sinners becoming saints, losers becoming winners, the last becoming first, etc.

The term precious is used more than 77 times in the Bible. The trials and sufferings you currently face are precious in God’s sight, as you struggle never let go of His hand. Trials are precious, ask Job. God’s Word of Promise cannot be separated from His character. The Psalms say (Psalm 116):

“Precious in the sight of God is the death of a saint (believer)”.

CONCLUSION: Our time in church today is precious, but as you leave to face another week, be more observant and conscious of things that are **“so precious”**.