Take My Life and Let It Be

Tony Mauck · Philippians 1:21–30

INTRODUCTION

- The marvelous love and grace of God, and how privileged we are. We who are the people of God.
- And in regard to what we deal with spiritually, sometimes it feels like climbing Everest. It is an uphill climb.
- How are we going to survive spiritually in a very hostile environment?

1 Survive With Frequent Thought of God

Colossians 3:1–4

- I don't care where you live. This is the devil's domain.
- Out there is a very hostile environment to faith. And the only way you are going to survive is with frequent thought of God.
- If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above.
- Set your mind or fix your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

2 For to Me to Live Is Christ

Philippians 1:21–30

- You want to endure in a hostile world, in a hostile environment, you must possess this attitude. For to me, to live is Christ.
- For that is very much better. And it will always be so. And don't ever be tempted to believe that it is not better.
- That's why we preach. That's why we teach. That's why our elders lead and shepherd us. Because of your progress and your joy in the faith.
- Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. So that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the gospel.

3 Cultivate and Maintain the Sense of Indebtedness

Romans 1:14; 1 Timothy 1

- I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies. A living sacrifice, which is your reasonable service.
- Why is it reasonable to say to the Lord, take my life and let it be? Well, first of all, you only exist because of Him.
- You must constantly cultivate and maintain the sense of indebtedness. I'm a debtor.
- It is the key to a submissive response to God and productivity in his cause.

4 To What Extent Should I Surrender Myself to God?

Philippians 2:5–8; Matthew 23:11–12

- Once you maintain that sense of indebtedness, the question must be raised to what extent should I surrender myself to God?
- My life, my moments, let them flow in ceaseless praise. That's more than just a first day of the week.
- We hold out on God because we realize when we say, take my life and let it be, that we become vulnerable.
- But we must rely on God's promise. If I humble myself, I shall be exalted.

5 One Successful Day Does Not Guarantee Heaven

Colossians 3:17; Jude 1:20–21

- One successful day as a Christian does not heaven guarantee.
- If Sunday and Wednesday are the only days I think about God and righteousness, those are the only days that I'm truly a Christian.
- Whatever you do, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to the Father through him.
- Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. That's not just a Sunday verse.

6 Assemblies as a Stepping Stone

- We need to see assemblies as merely a stepping stone or a facilitator of spiritual growth. This isn't the end.
- I'm coming here to offer something to God, which is consistent with an offering that I'm making in my day-to-day life.
- Removing the worldly thoughts from our mind, that ought to take place right as we come into this building.

THE CHALLENGE

What is your response to God? Don't take my life, leave me be. Or take my life and let it be.

MY NOTES