

## HUMANITY'S FOUR GREATEST LOSSES

Text: Luke 19:10

INTRO: During a lifetime we lose or misplace many things. Some losses are desirable, most are undesirable. Some losses are extremely tragic. In this lesson, we will note humanity's four greatest losses.

I. THE LOST BOOK. About 622 B.C. in the days of King Josiah of Judah--about 850 years after the giving of the Law of Moses, about 380 years after the completion of the temple by Solomon:

Hilkiah the priest said to Shaphan the scribe, "I have found the Book of the Law in the house of the Lord." And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, & he read it. (2 Kings 22:8).

A. The Bible can be lost in the home. It has been virtually banned in the classroom. It can even be lost in the "house of the Lord."

B. Maybe your Bible has been lost in the shuffle of everyday life. Take time to re-discover it. 2 Tim 2:15; 3:15-17; Acts 17:11

II. THE LOST CHRIST.

READ LUKE 2:41-51

A. We can lose Christ by misunderstanding His teachings.

LK 2:50, Father's business.

John 8:26-27, He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him." They

did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father.

John 10:2-6, But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, & the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name & leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them.

John 12:14-16, Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

Mark 9:31-32, For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the 3<sup>rd</sup> day." But they did not understand this saying, and were afraid to ask Him.

B. By failing to follow in His footsteps.

Then Jesus said to His disciples,  
"If anyone desires to come after Me,  
let him deny himself & take up his  
cross & follow Me." (MT 16:24).

- C. By going on without Him. Luke 2:41-51.  
Whoever goeth onward & abideth not  
in the teaching of Christ, hath not  
God. He that abideth in the teach-  
ing, the same hath both the Father &  
the Son. (2 JN 9 ASV)

Learn not to go beyond the things  
which are written (1 Cor 4:6 ASV).

### III. THE LOST OPPORTUNITY. LUKE 16:19-31.

- A. Opportunity to serve others.
- B. Opportunity to attend to his own  
salvation.
- C. Opportunity to help family, friends,  
etc.

### IV. THE LOST SOUL. LUKE 12:16-21.

Matt. 16:26

CONCLUSION: There are some things we cannot  
afford to lose. If we have lost them, we must,  
at all costs, find them again.

Jonestown, TX, December 10, 1967  
Springhill, LA, November 22, 29, 1970  
KBSF Radio, Springhill, LA, March 5, 1972  
La Porte, TX, April 17, 1977  
Exton, PA, July 24, 1988  
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, October 24, 1993  
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, February 23, 2003