

Living Eternally-FRANCIS CHAN

PREACHED 3/08/09 @ Cornerstone Church, Simi Valley California

Many Christians all over the world suffer persecution and loss daily for their faith in Christ. As believers in a “Christianized” culture, we are not forced to suffer. But if we live our lives courageously proclaiming Christ, we will indeed suffer for our faith. People will reject you and your message. If you share your possessions, you will suffer loss. If you live and love as Jesus did, you will share His lot.

Often we avoid suffering and persecution by setting boundaries. We must not make the earth our home. We can’t be minimal Christians. To do so, according to the New Testament, we act as enemies of God.

Like Paul writes, “To live is Christ, to die is gain.” Philippians 3:12-14, Luke 9:60-62, 2 Timothy all reinforce the concept of total surrender regardless of the cost.

I’m using this rope to describe eternal living. This tiny end is the span of our lives. If we look at the past we become depressed, if we look toward the future, we have rewards and no regrets. Paul admonishes us to keep an eye on those who live by eternal values.

Let me ask you two defining questions today:

What have you done this past week that matters in light of eternity?

What have you done this past week that will not be remembered?