

# Have You Ever Saved A Soul?

(James 5:19-20)

- Introduction:
1. The book of James is probably the most practical book in the New Testament concerning the subject of Christian living.
  2. As James closes the letter, he encourages the faithful in the Lord to be about the business of soul winning.
  3. (Proverbs 11:30).
  3. When is the last time you were involved in a “rescue operation?”
    - a. (Galatians 6:1-2; James 5:19-20).
  4. The intent of this lesson is to remind and inspire us to reach out to the erring and the lost; to take the light to them.

## I. A Regrettable Reality

- A. “If a brother strays...”(James 5:19)
- B. A Christian can fall from the grace of God and sin so as to be eternally lost.
- C. (Galatians 5:4; 2 Peter 2:20-22; Hebrews 10:26-29).
- D. Most often, one strays through neglect or inattention, not by a deliberate choice.

## II. A Saving Standard

- A. “...from the truth...” (James 5:19).
- B. Note: the brother is in peril, not because he has strayed from Christ, but from the truth.
- C. It matters what we believe!
- D. (John 8:32; John 7:17; 1 Timothy 4:16).

## III. An Urgent Undertaking

- A. “...someone turns him back...” (James 5:19).
- B. We have an obligation to each other.
- C. (Galatians 6:1-2).
- D. (Proverbs 11:30).
- E. Note the “one-another” passages in the New Testament...(be kind, love, receive, care, serve, bear with, forgive, comfort, edify, pray, have compassion, admonish, and consider).

## IV. A Moving Motive

- A. “...will save a soul from death...” (James 5:20).
  1. Death is not an end, but a transition.
  2. Death literally means “a separation” (Genesis 2:17).
  3. How many may die without my intervention?
- B. “...cover a multitude of sins” (James 5:20).
  1. (Psalm 32:1).

- Conclusion:
1. Think for a moment...is there anyone you know who needs saving?
  2. If so, have you addressed this matter in a life or death fashion?
  3. Are you content to stand before God having done what you have done?
  4. Let's not forget the mission of the church, and what is at stake.