

Fatal Sermon by Paul  
Idols...blacksmith angry at anti-idols

## The Pursuit of Value

(coming off idols -- chap 17 & 19)

What do you live for? Make your life matter?  
How much are you worth? what's your value?

Our greatest fear -- to not feel valuable. valued.

The Pursuit of Value	
<i>Acts 20:24a</i> <i>But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself...</i>	
<b>Designed with Infinite Value</b> Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.	<b>We Tried to Create Self-Value</b> Gen 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

20:24 But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

Priceless

What/Who increases or decreases how valuable you see yourself?

- My Relationships  
(children, spouse, friends, "name dropping")
- My Accomplishments  
(work, school, followers, possessions)
- My Appearance  
(children, spouse, friends, "name dropping")
- My Spirituality  
(morality, knowledge, "insider")

Worthless

Pursuit of Self-Value Leaves us Perpetually Insecure

THESE CUT BOTH  
WAYS...UP AND  
DOWN VALUE

PULPIT

Like **Carnival Game**  
Moving Target

NOT saying his life doesn't count.  
Saying his life is of GREATER value...beyond himself

"consider" = **MAKE / PRODUCE -- He can't make**

"Life" = psyche - whole self, soul, being.

Get off the hamster wheel

Give **others the power** to vote on our value...to control our worth (how?)

"Account" almost always means "make" or "produce"

When I am value-insecure, I am a value-taker and I:

- 1) reduce others to feel higher
- 2) "demand" others inflate us

Repentance:  
Agreeing that I choose self-worth over God-Image-Worth

## The Gift of Value

**The Gift of Value**

Acts 20:24a  
But I do not account my life of any **value** nor as precious to myself...

Value = "logos", the word.

John 1  
In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God, and the **Word** was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

A thing is worth whatever somebody is willing to pay for it.

1 Peter 1  
<sup>18b</sup> you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot

Matt 3:17  
and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

John 19:30  
It is Finished

**Believe what God says about my value rather than what I (and others) say about my value.**

**Took our value-futility to the cross.**

**Value not found around/in you, but in Him cannot be taken away**

Die to "self worth" to gain "Christ-Worth". perpetual. daily.

When I am feeling value-secure, I am a value-giver (missional)

When I am feeling value-insecure, I am a value-taker.  
either reduce others to feel higher  
or "demand" others inflate us (compliments)

Hasn't just given us value, but given us himself.

## A Life of God-Image-Value

If we were truly and utterly value-secure without any fear of losing our value, how would we act?

What is God's calling to you:  
it's to glorify him. give over completely/utterly.  
NOT about you.

**A Life of God-Image-Value**

<sup>24b</sup> if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

When I am value-secure, I am a value-giver and I:

- 1) Don't have to use others to elevate myself
- 2) Can freely give myself away to God and others because I have nothing to lose and everything to give