

ONE THING

Lk 10:38-42

INTRODUCTION:

- A. **"ONE THING"** sometimes it doesn't take much, just one thing is sufficient to make something happen or get a job done
- B. It seems to me that we can learn a lesson from these two words as used in this context
- C. These two words are used together several times under different circumstances that should suggest some worthwhile thoughts for our consideration

DISCUSSION:

I. DAVID DESIRED "ONE THING" OF THE LORD Psa 27:4

- A. The context indicates that this was written when David was a fugitive
 1. Saul sought David's life as he would a wild animal
 2. David was forced to live away from cities or settled areas because Saul's friends would report his location
 3. David lived in mountains, caves, even in foreign countries
- B. **"ONE THING"** he desired of the Lord
 1. Not comfort - not the throne - not city life
 2. But to dwell in the house of the Lord. This was what he missed most, for he loved the house of the Lord Psa 122:1; Psa 100:1,2
- C. How I wish all professing Christians loved the times of worship and study the way David did.
 1. Glad to come every time, glad to stay and sing and pray and hear the word of God
 2. There is **one thing** you will sacrifice more to obtain than anything else; **one thing** that you will brave the worst of weather to attend; **somewhere** that you will go when you are feeling too bad to go anywhere else
 3. What is that **one thing** for you?

II. RICH YOUNG RULER LACKED "ONE THING"

Mk 10:17-22

- A. Several things may be noted from the story of this man
 1. He was interested in religion
 2. He came running to Jesus, he was energetic
 3. He was concerned about eternal life
- B. We may learn from this account that there may be just **one thing** between us and eternal life

1. It could be baptism into Christ
 - a. No matter how religious, how honest, how clean, how generous, etc. you are
 - b. You must be baptized into Christ or you will die in your sins Jhn 3:5; Eph 1:6,7; Gal 3:27
2. **One thing** may cause those who have been baptized into Christ to be lost Jas 1:4; 2:10
 - a. It may be covetousness, pride, love of the world, neglect of the word, 1Jhn 2:15-17
 - b. Note: 2Cor 13:5; Heb 4:1; 1Pet 1:17; 2Pet 3:17,18
 - c. It seems that many think serving the Lord requires no sacrifice, that it is just a good, easy going way of life

III. PAUL: THIS "ONE THING" I DO Phil 3:13,14

- A. Paul pressed toward the mark for the prize
- B. To do this he had to forget those things that were behind, the things of the world that he had forsaken
Note: Phil 3:7,8
 1. Lot's wife couldn't forget those things behind Gen 19:26
 2. Israel could not forget Egypt Num 11:4-6
 3. Many in the Lord's church today look back longingly on the city of sin

IV. MARTHA NEEDED "ONE THING" Lk 10:38-42

- A. Similar to that of Paul. We are troubled about too many things - luxuries, comforts, beautiful furniture, clothes, cars, homes, etc.
- B. But **"one thing"** is needful - to sit at Jesus feet - listen to His words
 1. These other things will seem inconsequential when we come to judgment.
 2. Nothing of this world should be the chief end for living
 - a. The chief end should be the prize of the high calling of God.
 - b. Every other thing should be made to contribute to that end.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Let's not allow anything to keep us from receiving eternal life
- B. Let's have the determination that David and Paul had
- C. Don't be like the rich ruler or Martha and be concerned about the things of this life.