

# Nothing

## Introduction

- **This morning I'm not going to preach on anything, which means I am going to preach on nothing!**

### 1. Out of nothing God created the world.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

- A. **This is the only way to account for creation. It must begin with a self-existent being; He created something out of NOTHING.**
- B. **Evolutionists must start with something. Where did that something come from?**
- C. **Man can rearrange, re-design, reshape, combine, and separate, but not create; It must already be in existence!**
- D. **What did Job say?**

JOB 26:7 "He stretches out the north over empty space, And hangs the earth on nothing.

## For We Brought Nothing into this World

1 Timothy 6:7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

1. **We can gain while we are in the world. How is this possible?**
2. **Godliness with contentment is a great gain!**

1 Timothy 6:6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

- A. **Since man can carry nothing out of the world, the purpose of his stay is not a quest for the material; but the spiritual.**

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.

- 1) **It's a preparation for another life.**

Amos 4:12 "Therefore thus will I do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, **Prepare to meet your God, O Israel!**"

3. **Lose sight of this and you will come up with nothing when you die; the material cannot be taken with you.**

Matthew 6:19-20 "**Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth**, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

## Jesus Said, for Without Me You Can Do Nothing

John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

### 1. **Morality minus Christ equals nothing.**

#### A. **Christ is Savior**

Matthew 1:21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

#### B. **Christ is the way**

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through Me.**

#### C. **His gospel is the power to save.**

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

#### D. **He will save His church.**

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and **He is the Savior of the body.**

Ephesians 5:27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

## Belief plus Baptism Equals Salvation:

Mark 16:16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

1. **One plus one equals two**
2. **One minus one equals 0**
3. **Therefore, Belief - Baptism = NOTHING**

## Repentance plus Baptism = Remission of Sins:

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

1. **As One plus one = 2, but as 1-1 = 0, so Repentance - Baptism = NOTHING**
2. **Paul the apostle shows us an example of this.**

Acts 22:16 And now why are you waiting? **Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins**, calling on the name of the Lord.'

## Religious Acts minus Love = Nothing

### 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

1. **Faith minus love = NOTHING (1 Cor 13:2)**
2. **Benevolence minus love = NOTHING (1 Cor 13:3)**
  - A. **We should be able to see that God's religion is a doing religion. Take away the works from the heart and we become NOTHING!**
3. **The first and great commandment deals with love. The second is like unto it.**  
**Matthew 22:36-39**
4. **Love would solve many problems in the church of today.**

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, **he will keep My word**; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

1 Corinthians 8:13 Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, **lest I make my brother stumble**.

## If Salt Lost its Savor it Would Be Good for Nothing

1. It seasons, saves, and preserves.
2. A child of God who has lost these qualities is good for NOTHING.

Matthew 5:13 You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

Colossians 4:6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

## Destroy the Wisdom of the Wise

1 Corinthians 1:19 For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent."

1. Man's wisdom minus God equals NOTHING.  
**1 Corinthians 1:18, 25-27**  
**2 Corinthians 2:9-16**
2. We need this lesson in the church today. We shouldn't emphasize secular training to the neglect of spiritual training.

## As Having Nothing and Yet Possessing All Things

2 Corinthians 6:10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

1. Having nothing means material possessions.
2. Having all things.(the spiritual)

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

## Conclusion

1. If we lose our souls we have gained absolutely nothing!  
**Mark 8:36-37**
  
2. We must ensure that we are reading and studying God's Word.
  - A. To be determined to live for Him each and every day.
    - 1) Looking forward to an eternity with Him. There is **nothing** worth losing this hope for!

## Invitation

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Richard Thetford, December 1993 (Revised - November 2009)