

# BEFORE I DIE

## GENESIS 45

Text: Genesis 45:28

### **Genesis 45:28 (KJV)**

<sup>28</sup> And Israel said, *It is enough*; Joseph my son *is yet alive*: I will go and see him before I die.

Introduction:

The story: Jacob had learned that his son, Joseph, was alive and he said, "I will go see him before I die." His intentions were good and right and he acted immediately to carry them through.

We ought to have good intentions, most of us do, but sometimes, for one reason or another, we don't seem to carry them out.

Some intentions are of the little worth, and it doesn't matter a great deal whether we get them done or not.

### ***Illustration:***

I read the story of a young man whose ultimate goal in life was to own a Lincoln Continental and become a 33rd degree mason. He put his whole heart and life into achieving these two goals. He neglected his family,

his church, his property and everything else to pursue these dreams.

Today, I want to talk to you about some intentions that are really worthwhile: they are the 'majors' of this life.

### ***1. I Will Be Saved Before I Die***

Hell is full of people today who had all intentions of getting saved before they died.

(Mat 16:26) "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

(2 Cor 6:2) "(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)"

A. Salvation is for today

B. You may never see tomorrow

(Prov 27:1) "Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

### ***Illustration:***

Rich Farmer Luke 12:16-20

(Luke 12:16-20) "And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: {17} And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? {18} And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. {19} And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. {20} But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?"

Agrippa Acts 26

(Acts 26:27-28) "King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest. {28} Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

## ***2. I will Obey God Before I Die***

Read 1 Sam. 15

A. To obey is better than sacrifice

## ***3. I Will Make Things Right With Others Before I Die***

(Mat 5:23-25) "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; {24} Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother,

and then come and offer thy gift. {25} Agree with thine adversary quickly, while thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison."

#### ***4. I Will Seek To Win Someone Else Before I Die***

***Illustration*** Luke 15

Lost Sheep

Lost Coin

Prodigal Son

***Close:***

Are there things that you have been putting off?

(James 4:14) "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."