

## Going, Going, Gone

I remember seeing bumper stickers reading, "Have you found Jesus?" And I wanted to say, "I didn't know He was lost." He isn't. We either were or still are the ones who are lost.

The next time you're in an airport notice the difference between passengers who have confirmed tickets and those on standby. Those who have confirmed tickets are relaxed, confident and expectant. Those on standby hang around the ticket counter, pace, go out to smoke.....all because of uncertainty. When it comes to Jesus, why not get off standby and have your ticket for eternity confirmed? Focus on what God wants you to do. Take your eyes off anyone else, and especially yourself, and realize it is only important what God wants of you, because it makes all of the difference in eternity.

Peter told the people listening to his sermon on Pentecost (Acts 2:38), "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." The Ethiopian eunuch was also moved to make the most important decision in his life (Acts 8:36-38), "As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?' And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him." The great thing about baptism is that when your sins are washed away there is no history or record of them. God forgets them. As for the eunuch the Bible simply says he went on his way rejoicing. Rejoicing over the fact that he had moved on in his life, and now had a life centered round Jesus.

The apostle Paul had to make that decision too, and after three days of intense thinking a man by the name of Ananias came to him in Damascus and said, "And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name." (Acts 22:16)

James 1:22-24 gives us some very important advice. "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, and after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like."

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