

Paul H. Dixon
You Only Go Around Once
Circa 1977

Unedited Transcript

00;00;02;14 - 00;00;17;00

Paul H. Dixon

Well, what happens to them, it generally hits the papers, and it doesn't happen when it happens in our churches, but they have may they have some real battles that they fight every day. And I like to encourage you to pray for the chapel services for those who are heading it up, for those who are speaking.

00;00;17;08 - 00;00;38;05

Paul H. Dixon

And for all the athletes. And as God would work in their lives Sunday by Sunday and week by week, I'm sure that most of us have seen the commercial on television. The young men were out on the ship and they put in at the island and it's time to relax, and there's always a lot of food and

00;00;38;05 - 00;00;57;01

Paul H. Dixon

there are always a lot of things, you know, and they're having a blast. And of course, there's always a lot of booze ice down and then they come on with this thrust on that commercial. In essence, eat, drink and be merry for you, only go around once.

00;00;58;16 - 00;01;18;09

Paul H. Dixon

I don't like that philosophy. I do not accept that philosophy. Eat, drink, be. Live it up. Have a blast. What am I? You may die. Nor do I like the product. I'm against the product. I do not in any way buy that product or support that product.

00;01;19;02 - 00;01;44;27

Paul H. Dixon

But I agree with the philosophy. The point that says you only go around one. That's right. And the problem with most of us is, is that we live our lives as if we're going to just keep on living or if we would die, that somehow we're going to come back and live another and before we know if

00;01;44;27 - 00;02;00;29

Paul H. Dixon

the life is gone. And it's the zero, if only God would help us tonight to realize we are living one life. Every preacher's power, every teenager, every man and woman. We are living one life. We're in the midst of it right now.

00;02;01;01 - 00;02;16;00

Paul H. Dixon

We don't know when the curtain is going to be drawn. We don't know when it's going to be over with. We're only going to live one life. What are

we going to do with that life? I think that one of the most practical books in the Bible that deals with life has to be the book of James

00;02;16;11 - 00;02;37;18

Paul H. Dixon

. It's one of my favorite books, and I'd like you to turn there with me tonight to the fourth chapter of the Book of James James Chapter four. I like to encourage you not only to study on your own the Book of James, but study the Book of Proverbs, many of you.

00;02;39;06 - 00;02;54;23

Paul H. Dixon

Who have purchased the booklet back on the table. That I wrote on how to study the Bible as a family. Now that I recommend starting a chapter a week as a family, we happen to be closing out the book of Galatians this week.

00;02;54;23 - 00;03;09;19

Paul H. Dixon

We're in the sixth chapter of the Book of Galatians. We have been doing this now for almost three years as a family. We have two years to go and we will complete the New Testament. This summer, while my boy will be working at church camp.

00;03;10;21 - 00;03;31;29

Paul H. Dixon

And we will not see him for quite a while. Instead of taking a chapter a week in the New Testament, we're taking a chapter in the Book of Proverbs. I believe that Proverbs has to be one of the most vital books for every Christian and especially every young person.

00;03;32;22 - 00;03;52;04

Paul H. Dixon

If I had one book that I would tell young people to spend the most time in, it would have to be the book of Proverbs. And it's very interesting when you study the wisdom book Proverbs along with the Book of James that has so much to say about Wisdom and James Chapter four, beginning with verse 13, we

00;03;52;04 - 00;04;09;26

Paul H. Dixon

read Go to now you that say today or tomorrow we will go into such a city and continue there a year. And the word continuum means make your plan or plan your doings for a year. Buy, sell, get game.

00;04;10;08 - 00;04;24;29

Paul H. Dixon

He's talking about us. We make all our plans for the summer. We make our plans for 1977 and next year by our young people and their college education, whatever it might be, right down the road. There's nothing wrong with making a plan.

00;04;25;14 - 00;04;39;10

Paul H. Dixon

What's wrong is presuming that you're going to live long enough to fulfill those plans that somehow you can just live forever. That's what James is talking about. Race does, you know, not watch? I'll be on the morrow. For what is your life?

00;04;40;19 - 00;04;54;00

Paul H. Dixon

And so it is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanish it the way. The question I want you to think with me tonight on is that that's found in the 14th verse. What is your life?

00;04;54;22 - 00;05;12;03

Paul H. Dixon

If we only go around once, if we only live one life, what is your life tonight? How would you sum up your life? There are many things that could be said about life. But one of the things I think of when I think of life is that life is precious.

00;05;13;15 - 00;05;36;04

Paul H. Dixon

I don't think I ever quite realized how precious life was until April the sixth, 1962. Pat and I were living in an apartment in Chattanooga. It was about four, 30 in the morning. Pat started checking me and said, Paula, I believe it's time.

00;05;37;10 - 00;05;55;10

Paul H. Dixon

Well, I got all excited. The suitcase had already been packed. We've been looking forward to this hour for nine long months. So we got out of bed, got dressed and took off for Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee. We pulled into the parking lot, got out as quickly as we could.

00;05;55;11 - 00;06;12;07

Paul H. Dixon

Moved into the hospital and as soon as we walked in the door, they knew what the problem was. They took part to her room and they took me to mine. You know, they do have a room for men at a time like that.

00;06;12;26 - 00;06;26;10

Paul H. Dixon

I never saw so many brave men and all of my life. Much more biting their fingernails. So I'm wringing their hands, some pacing the floor. Listen, you ladies will never know what women go through at a time like that.

00;06;26;11 - 00;06;43;10

Paul H. Dixon

Right, fellas, there's a telephone in that room, and every once in a while it would ring. In some perspective, daddy would get the word is baby, it arrived. Well, I sat there and kept listening to that phone ringing, all excited on the edge of my chair waiting for the good news.

00;06;43;14 - 00;07;02;24

Paul H. Dixon

I had a new baby 8:00 in the morning. I'm still awaiting 10:00, 12:00 noon any moment now that phone's going to ring for me 2:00 in the afternoon. Would you believe board like I'm beginning to think that it's all a false alarm?

00;07;03;08 - 00;07;19;16

Paul H. Dixon

There's nothing to it. About 4:30, that phone starts, right? Well, by now, I've been hearing that thing rang so long. I mean, almost twelve hours that I don't even get excited. But it just kept keeps ringing and so I start looking around.

00;07;19;16 - 00;07;30;23

Paul H. Dixon

There was my final thought. I knew it wasn't for him as my brother in law, and I knew it wasn't for him and I was the only prospective daddy left in the room. And you have to understand at that time I was a seminary student.

00;07;31;06 - 00;07;41;27

Paul H. Dixon

Seminary students are very intelligent and there's something about it when you're in seminary and you're studying Greek and Hebrew and on and stimulation of the mind. Being a very intelligent seminary student, I sat there and I said, Aha.

00;07;43;07 - 00;08;01;12

Paul H. Dixon

Since I am the only prospective daddy left in the room. That call is either for me or that's the wrong number. I mean, you know what, you have to go to seminary to figure that out. I got up and I picked up the telephone and the doctor on the other end, the lines that I like to speak

00;08;01;12 - 00;08;19;24

Paul H. Dixon

to Paul Dix and I said, You're speaking to it. He said, I've got something for you. I said, What have you got? He said, I've got a great big nine pound for pound boy. A. Peter said I had a six and a half pound girl, I loved it, Peter said.

00;08;19;25 - 00;08;37;13

Paul H. Dixon

I had a seven and a half pound boy. I'd have been excited, but one is that I had a boy and he was half grown to start with. Oh man, you talk about someone thrilled. I was telling the Reds this and and after it was over, Tony Perez came up to me with Tony in Montreal.

00;08;37;13 - 00;08;50;25

Paul H. Dixon

Start with Cincinnati tonight. I know he's traded to the exposed Tony came out to me, the very nice fella and with his Cuban accent and he said, Oh Paul, he said, That's great. He said 94 to my first boy to eleven for.

00;08;54;09 - 00;09;13;18

Paul H. Dixon

Said my second boy, twelve, OK. Then we started playing in the locker room, can you top this, you know? I mean, I thought I was doing something, you know, at nine for. I went running down that hall as fast as I could, and there was that doctor standing in front of those two big doors with a bundle

00;09;13;18 - 00;09;25;02

Paul H. Dixon

in his mind. He said, you want to hold him. I said no. And I won the battle him. I was afraid I'd drop him. This is too precious a commodity. I didn't want to get started wrong. You said, do you want to see him?

00;09;25;02 - 00;09;37;18

Paul H. Dixon

I said, I sure do. And he pulled that cover back from that little guy's face, and that little guy won a place in my heart like no one ever had before. I got a special place that had a special place.

00;09;37;18 - 00;09;53;02

Paul H. Dixon

My mom and dad, my sister. But here was my own flesh and blood. And to this day, a very, very special place in my heart. I'd come up to visit Pat and you know how when you have the little babies, the first few days, it's been a while and I remember exactly how long.

00;09;53;03 - 00;10;04;10

Paul H. Dixon

It is very long. But they have all the in that room and there's a big plate glass window. Well, all these people gather around, you know, grandma and granddaddies and all the friends and all and of course, daddy's always down there.

00;10;04;15 - 00;10;22;17

Paul H. Dixon

And I would always saunter up, you know, when you have a new baby, have a special walk, you know, you have a just the special saunter. And I just come walking up and they get cool, you know, and I look around and see the big one smiling mine.

00;10;22;17 - 00;10;40;22

Paul H. Dixon

The all was. I proud of it with all this God. The day came. I went to the hospital. I got fat, I got Scott. I took him back to the apartment. We went upstairs. I took Scott back to his bed.

00;10;42;00 - 00;10;58;24

Paul H. Dixon

Put him in the bed. And said, now, son, I have something I want to tell you. I love you. I love you very much. But there's someone who loves you more than I do. And that's the God who made you.

00;11;00;02 - 00;11;16;14

Paul H. Dixon

I told him about the love of God. God giving his son to die for him. You say, Paul, he didn't understand that. I know he didn't then. I think I probably did it to remind myself even more than to tell Scott.

00;11;17;27 - 00;11;40;06

Paul H. Dixon

That Scott Dixon had a very special place in God's heart. Life is precious. But I don't think you ever realize how precious life is until you realize what you mean to God. We are contending today with the terrible problem of self-image with our teenagers.

00;11;41;19 - 00;12;03;06

Paul H. Dixon

All across America, teenagers having a self image problem. Not only teenagers, but it carries over into adulthood, and there are people who go through life wondering what's my purpose in life? Many times on a college campus, a student will stand and stay and verbalize what so many are saying.

00;12;03;13 - 00;12;21;22

Paul H. Dixon

Who am I? Why am I here? What am I supposed to be doing? Where am I going? Fran, I want you to know tonight that there is an answer to that. And I want you to know that there is no question about it.

00;12;21;23 - 00;12;38;11

Paul H. Dixon

God loves you. You are precious to almighty God. Now you let that sink in. Out of all the people who are alive in the world tonight and of all those who ever live, God knows who you are. You say, Paul, how do you know that I'm precious to God?

00;12;38;15 - 00;12;54;17

Paul H. Dixon

No one, I know it by creation. Did you know that when God made you, he made you in his own image? He didn't make it down in his image or a cat or a horse or a bird, but he made you in his very own image.

00;12;54;17 - 00;13;12;11

Paul H. Dixon

Now there's a problem that. Then in an end to the human race. And when Sin came to Adam and Eve and when we came into this world of sinners, the image was distorted. In fact, the image was destroyed.

00;13;13;16 - 00;13;32;02

Paul H. Dixon

Therefore, our relationship to God no longer existed. Not only were we not in the image of God, we were at enmity with God. Instead of being children of God, we're killing of the devil. God, those that I love you.

00;13;32;11 - 00;13;49;07

Paul H. Dixon

What he may do in his image. But do you know what he did? After sin came, God said. I'm going to let men know that I love him again. In fact, he planned this before, man, ever since. And God sent his son.

00;13;50;18 - 00;14;07;01

Paul H. Dixon

To die for senator. one of my favorite verses is Romans 58 God commended his love toward us and that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. And if I may, I'd like to change a couple of words to help you appreciate what the verse is saying, but God demonstrated.

00;14;08;21 - 00;14;38;08

Paul H. Dixon

His love to watch. Demonstrated that we were precious to him and that while we were yet sinners. Christ died instead of a. Christ died in our we have. Here we are in the image of God, we allow sin to distort the image, to destroy the image, and then God sends his son and his son dies on that

00;14;38;08 - 00;14;52;07

Paul H. Dixon

cross and takes that sin and pays for that sin and makes it possible for us to be right with God makes it possible for us to be reconciled with God, makes it possible for us to become children of God and enter into God's family.

00;14;54;04 - 00;15;04;20

Paul H. Dixon

But did you know that when you take advantage of that and you must, if this is going to happen, just did happen in Christ dying, does it make you a child of God? Doesn't take care of the sin problem?

00;15;04;24 - 00;15;25;06

Paul H. Dixon

You must be willing to admit you're a sinner. You must be willing to admit that you're lost and received Jesus Christ as your personal savior. I was witnessing the one. Ball player for the Philadelphia Phillies. His fiance had been in my services night after night in Ohio, did raise their hand for prayer.

00;15;25;12 - 00;15;49;10

Paul H. Dixon

But she said, I'll not be saved until she named him get safe. I drove to Atlanta, Georgia. I sat in the Marriott Hotel in the lobby and for 45 minutes gave this handsome, successful young man the gospel. As I gave him the gospel and told him about Christ, he looked at me and he said, I don't need

00;15;49;10 - 00;16;12;14

Paul H. Dixon

that. I said, what do you mean? He said, I don't need it. Drama success. That I have everything anyone would want. Have beautiful wife now married the girl? Said I am a professional baseball player. Make a lot of money, have bright future college graduate.

00;16;13;10 - 00;16;32;05

Paul H. Dixon

He said, What Christ? What can I do for me? I said, Sir, you have it backwards. I'm not talking about a Christian humanism. I'm not talking about just what Christ can do for you. I'm talking about the thing that's in your life and what you're seeing is doing to Almighty God.

00;16;32;28 - 00;16;48;08

Paul H. Dixon

So I never thought about that. Sometime later, I got a long distance call from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was on the other end of the line. He said I just got up off of my knees in the hotel room.

00;16;49;25 - 00;17;03;29

Paul H. Dixon

My wife just got up off of her knees. Don, so just let both of us to Christ, and we wanted you to be the first to know that we're Christian. But you see, they had to take advantage of this.

00;17;05;12 - 00;17;17;21

Paul H. Dixon

You have to be willing to admit that you're lost, that you have a need, that you are a senator, what you're doing to God, the way you're living your present lifestyle and received Jesus Christ is your savior, but even then, you're not totally in the image of God.

00;17;19;20 - 00;17;34;00

Paul H. Dixon

No, not. You're not pastor of that. So, you know what God did. God said there's a third way I'm going to demonstrate that they're precious to me. And it's called sanctification, and that's a big word. Preacher's spouse, I'll tell you what it means.

00;17;34;05 - 00;18;01;20

Paul H. Dixon

It comes from the word related that means holy. And it means set apart for God. Separated under God. I love this. Paul said to the Corinthians. That Almighty God sent his holy spirit into our lives. Listen to this, that we might be conformed onto the image of his son.

00;18;04;09 - 00;18;28;23

Paul H. Dixon

Would you let that sink in? God, the father makes us in his image, seeing Mars, the image, God, the son dies in the cross, the shed, his blood for that sin, the Holy Spirit of God comes into our life to help us to mature as Christians, to help us to grow up as Christians, that we might be

00;18;28;23 - 00;18;47;19

Paul H. Dixon

more and more like Jesus Christ in the image of God Son. It's never going to be totally realized until we get the glory, but we can becoming stronger and stronger and stronger. Every day that we live. Let me just make this observation.

00;18;48;14 - 00;19;10;22

Paul H. Dixon

I'm preaching to people here tonight. You are safe. But you're just not growing up. You know, the story of Peter Pan Preachers pounce. No, Peter Pan. Peter Pan, a little boy who never grew up. Never grew up. That's a nice little story.

00;19;13;02 - 00;19;31;29

Paul H. Dixon

But it's not very nice in reality. And our churches are full of Peter Pan. People who never grow up. They just get saved and they stay babies all of their Christian life. I probably have one of my greatest time and speaking to the athletes with the football players.

00;19;34;19 - 00;19;49;13

Paul H. Dixon

Very interesting, there's quite a different lifestyle of my son. Had the ability to play professional football, professional baseball and came to me and said, Dad, what's one? Should I play? I play professional football. You say you're crazy. No, it's a very different lifestyle.

00;19;50;23 - 00;20;05;22

Paul H. Dixon

Only one game a week. You're not away from your family as much. And I find that God is is doing some great things and some of those professional football players lives. I was sitting down next to one of the football players for the Bengals.

00;20;07;05 - 00;20;21;12

Paul H. Dixon

And I knew him to be one of the outstanding Christians on the team. And he said to me, said, Paul, you know, I would say 18 months before I ever started to grow. I made a decision for Jesus Christ, it's only been about three years before that, he said.

00;20;21;12 - 00;20;37;24

Paul H. Dixon

I made the decision for Christ. But he said I just kept on going. The old ways that I came from a rough background is that I still had the same locker room vocabulary. He said I'm down in the locker room one day and I'm cursing a blue streak.

00;20;39;24 - 00;20;50;10

Paul H. Dixon

And while the other players walked over to me and called my name and said, Man one, are you either get with it or get out? He said You're supposed to be a Christian. I look at the way you're living.

00;20;51;00 - 00;21;03;20

Paul H. Dixon

He said you make a shambles of it all. You said it shook me up down to my toenails. He said I backed off and realized what he was saying. And I

went home and said, by God's grace, they're going to be some changes made.

00;21;03;22 - 00;21;14;13

Paul H. Dixon

I'm going to find out someone who can teach me the Bible and give me some things to help me to grow. And he started getting in the word and started developing as pro-life and and started maturing and started sharing his faith with others.

00;21;14;16 - 00;21;27;03

Paul H. Dixon

And now he's one of the finest Christians on the Bengal. But what happened? He had to allow the spirit of God to do that work of sanctification. Look. Don't ever question that you're important. You're so important. God made you in his image.

00;21;27;05 - 00;21;51;04

Paul H. Dixon

You are so important. God's son died on the cross for you, and you're so important. The Holy Spirit of God comes into your life after you say, Can you imagine God living in your life? God, living in your life, personally working in you, working out through you, what a fantastic truth that says we're precious to God.

00;21;51;08 - 00;22;05;15

Paul H. Dixon

Have you ever taken advantage of this? I'm preaching to scores of people in this auditorium. We're not going to live forever with God. You're not living for God right now. You're not going to go to heaven when you die because you've never received Jesus Christ as your savior.

00;22;05;21 - 00;22;22;21

Paul H. Dixon

And I want you to give serious consideration to making the greatest decision you will ever make in your life. And that is to trust Christ for your salvation tonight, once and for all, not the church. Because the church can say not baptism, because baptism can save you.

00;22;23;09 - 00;22;40;28

Paul H. Dixon

No break, but come tonight, repent of your sin and receive Jesus Christ. Life is precious. No two life has purpose. Life has purpose, and it's interesting. I have a study on the book of James, I take a message on each chapter.

00;22;41;02 - 00;22;56;11

Paul H. Dixon

I like to do that, the kind of ministry that I have. We don't have a long time in a particular place, so I have five messages on the Book of James, and each chapter deals with a different facet of life.

00;22;58;00 - 00;23;15;24

Paul H. Dixon

James is concerned about how we live our lives, what our purpose is. Let me ask you, what's your purpose in living? You teenagers have decided that, haven't you? You break your spouse, I hope we're always giving some consideration what you're doing with your life, what you're going to do with it.

00;23;16;24 - 00;23;43;10

Paul H. Dixon

And certainly you young couple. Well, what is your purpose or living? Grandma and granddad and everyone here, many of you people know. That you're living. For the pleasures of this world, that's the only reason you're here. The only reason you're living is to satisfy the love of your flesh.

00;23;44;07 - 00;24;03;24

Paul H. Dixon

The drive, the desire, the dreams, you're just living for yourself, the pleasures of this world. Remember, I told you to study Proverbs when you study James. Man, God used to write Proverbs, he also used to write the book of Ecclesiastes.

00;24;05;05 - 00;24;22;25

Paul H. Dixon

Man's name is Solomon. If ever there was anyone who had the opportunity to live for the pleasures of this world, it was Solomon. And he did. And one day he backed off and looked at all the pleasures the world had given him.

00;24;22;28 - 00;24;41;29

Paul H. Dixon

And he said, You know what it is? It's vanity. And the word for vanity is the word for breath. It's like the word here in James Bond 14 vapor. It's something that is fleeting. It's something that's here and then it's gone.

00;24;42;01 - 00;24;59;17

Paul H. Dixon

It's something that is empty. It's something that is feudal. He says all the pleasures of this world are empty. They don't satisfy their pleading their fiddle. And yet people take their beloved thinking. Someday, I'm going to find out what it's all about.

00;24;59;20 - 00;25;23;08

Paul H. Dixon

They're living their life for pleasure, only to come up batting zero. I was speaking at a college. And God was wonderfully working. The last day someone came up to me and said, there's a young lady, you just have to talk with you, would you take the time?

00;25;23;08 - 00;25;40;28

Paul H. Dixon

I said, Sure. Well, this gal sat down to just weeping uncontrollably like the wait quite a while before she could communicate what you wanted to

talk about. And in essence, she told me the story. He said I decided that I'd been sheltered.

00;25;42;21 - 00;26;03;17

Paul H. Dixon

She said I came from a Christian home. I grew up in a church where they taught the Bible. I went through this Christian College graduated. But you said down deep inside, I knew that I was being robbed. I knew that the people on the outside were the ones who were having the blast and I was being cheated

00;26;04;03 - 00;26;15;22

Paul H. Dixon

. So I determined as soon as I got out of college, I was going to do my thing. I was going to go my way. Find out what it was really all about on my own. Said I got me a boyfriend who showed me the ropes.

00;26;20;00 - 00;26;36;15

Paul H. Dixon

We went the drug route. What sector out with alcohol out? You name it, we did it. And it was a miserable experience. She said I finally decided that I'd fallen in love with this fellow, and I want to lead him to Christ.

00;26;38;00 - 00;26;57;23

Paul H. Dixon

So I told him, you need to be saved, he laughed at me. You wouldn't listen to me. And she drives them on. She said, Paul. He was killed. Sunday night. In an automobile wreck. And I'm carrying his baby right now.

00;27;01;09 - 00;27;27;17

Paul H. Dixon

You want to say. He was saying the pleasures of this world are futile. Empty, the way of the transgressor is hard, friend. Go ahead. Make your life the pleasures of this world. Go the Playboy philosophy, but I'll guarantee you go that way and there will come a time in your life when you're back off and you'll see

00;27;27;17 - 00;27;47;23

Paul H. Dixon

your life in shambles and you'll see the results of it and you'll say it them they. I'm preaching to people tonight of all ages who are playing around and saying. I'm preaching to people here tonight who are blowing your life in thin.

00;27;47;26 - 00;28;02;16

Paul H. Dixon

And I want to challenge you to evaluate that life, what it's getting you, where it's taking you. And by the grace of God, repent of a turnaround and start living for God. And there are others who decide, Oh, I wouldn't do that.

00;28;02;17 - 00;28;22;28

Paul H. Dixon

No, sir, I just believe in working on my job and saving my money and and buying the house and the car and taking care of the finance the it. Right. You're living for possession. Materialistic man, America. We've got it figured out, you can solve everything with money.

00;28;23;21 - 00;28;46;12

Paul H. Dixon

Have you been watching all the specials on our problems in education this week? What a fascinating study. CBS, NBC, CBS, I believe it was spent all week. On the condition of our educational system in America. I think they said I'm not sure this is accurate.

00;28;47;01 - 00;29;09;20

Paul H. Dixon

I think they said the 50% of our tax dollars go to education. And yet now they are realizing that we are graduating people who do not know how to read. Who do not know how to add. And in Jacksonville, Florida, they just plunked 18% of all of their students, they said, we're tired of it all across America

00;29;09;20 - 00;29;22;21

Paul H. Dixon

, school boards are demanding suits are going into court. But we felt that we could solve the problems of education by just pouring money into the educational system. We think we'd solve everything with money. You can find life with money.

00;29;22;24 - 00;29;37;24

Paul H. Dixon

We just have a lot of money at worst excesses. Did you watch the four hour special on Howard Hughes? Boy, it really makes life worth living, doesn't it? Here is a man with all of his wealth and a lot of wasted life.

00;29;38;21 - 00;29;55;21

Paul H. Dixon

What a miserable way to live. Listen, I wouldn't change my life for the life of ten Howard users and ten times the money that he had, that's not life. Chuck Colson's Born Again. Chuck Colson in that book tells that after he left the White House.

00;29;58;14 - 00;30;15;25

Paul H. Dixon

Before Watergate exploded, he went back to his law practice and he went to visit an old client by the name of Tom Phillips. Tom Phillips, the president, Raytheon Corporation in Massachusetts. That is, he went to see him walked into his office.

00;30;16;23 - 00;30;35;10

Paul H. Dixon

All the guys is calling out vice president, so forth met him and they had a good time reunion. Then they said, You're going to see Tom delay, right? Well, we want to warn you. Tom has religion. He's not a religious

kid, and everybody goes into his office, you talk to him about God, and we try to prepare

00;30;35;10 - 00;30;49;24

Paul H. Dixon

him before they get in there. So we just want to warn course and said I couldn't believe it. You know, that's the last thing I think of Tom Phillips and Tom Phillips. I know having religion. So I couldn't wait, said I went into his office, and there he was, he said he could just see it on his

00;30;49;24 - 00;30;59;00

Paul H. Dixon

face. There was a piece about him, was yelling at the secretaries and cussing all over the officer. You know, the difference about him is that we talk for about five minutes and I kept waiting for him to bring it up.

00;30;59;03 - 00;31;12;20

Paul H. Dixon

He didn't bring it up, so I brought it up. I say, Tom, which is about to get religion, oh, no. Chuck Todd, you got it wrong. It's not religion person. Jesus Christ said he's come into my life and changed it.

00;31;13;19 - 00;31;26;12

Paul H. Dixon

I believe in just about 234 months ago that he said this had happened, he said. I will say gave me a good testimony. He said, You know, Chuck, I was living an empty life until then. Coulson said I thought to myself an empty life.

00;31;27;10 - 00;31;44;02

Paul H. Dixon

The guy is 40 years old. He's the president of the largest corporation in the state of Massachusetts, Raytheon Corporation. His salary a quarter of 1,000,000 a year. He has a lovely family, lives on an estate, has a Mercedes sitting in the driveway and that's an empty light.

00;31;44;04 - 00;32;05;28

Paul H. Dixon

And he said as soon as I thought it, I said they are just like, You're like something, you've reached every goal you've ever set in life. Graduated highest honors, law practice, fine family made the money become the right hand man, the prize, the United States, the headlines, the notoriety, everything that goes with it and your life is

00;32;05;28 - 00;32;21;01

Paul H. Dixon

empty. Because I walked out of there with a heavy heart. The story goes on at another time with Tom Phillips, Tom Phillips gave him a copy of C.S. Lewis, his book Mere Christianity. He went away, read it and answered Every intellectual hang up we ever had.

00;32;21;16 - 00;32;34;16

Paul H. Dixon

And Tom Phillips didn't led him to Jesus Christ. Well, I'm preaching to people tonight with empty lives. I'm afraid for the people tonight and don't know what life is, I'm afraid to the people know to have empty families.

00;32;35;18 - 00;32;45;13

Paul H. Dixon

You're trying to build a family without God, you don't know what it is to build your family on Jesus Christ and dad being a Christian and mom being a Christian and having an impact upon those kids for the Lord.

00;32;45;17 - 00;33;00;18

Paul H. Dixon

You need to be saved tonight. And I'm preaching to Christians tonight, professing Christians who are backsliding and away from God. Some of you young people are not living for the Lord. They're not sold out to the Lord. You've never turned loose of that life for God and said, Here it is, law.

00;33;00;22 - 00;33;18;20

Paul H. Dixon

Here's my whole life. I want you to be my purpose in living. Paul had it right, he said. For me to live. Jesus Christ. That purpose in life and you make that decision, Fran. You make that decision, you find out what life is all about.

00;33;19;09 - 00;33;33;13

Paul H. Dixon

In conclusion, I would say that life is pointed. Pointed short. That's what the verse says. It's even a vapor that appears for a little time. And then vanish with the way.