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Only one life so soon it will pass lyrics

It is said that C. T. Studd (1860-1931), a missionary to China, wrote "Only one life, 'twill soon be past; Only what's done for Christ will last." And these words are what inspired Avis B. Christiansen (1895-1985), an American hymn writer, to compose the words of this week's hymn. Both Studd and Christiansen knew that there are so many things in which we can get ourselves involved during the time allotted to us on this earth. There are so many goals that we might set, and some are worthy while others are not. But we need to maintain an eternal perspective when we establish our schedules, our values and our priorities. We need to choose what will truly "last" and make a difference in God's kingdom. We need to pray for discernment to make wise choices between what is good and what is excellent. None of us know how many days we have left here and as we grow older, some how the days seem to fly by faster each day. Somebody has calculated a life of 70 years will contain about 25,568 days, or 613,632 hours, or 36,817,920 minutes. That may seem like a long time, but the days quickly pass by ... one by one. The Bible says, "It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews. 9:27). "[Man's] days are determined, the number of his months is with You [God]; You have appointed his limits, so that he cannot pass" (Job 14:5). "The dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it" (Ecclesiastes. 12:7). Then, each of us must give an account to the Lord, "For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes. 12:14). Christiansen produced hundreds of hymn poems over a period of some six decades, making her one of the more significant gospel song writers of the twentieth century. She said: "All of my songs have come from my own heart experiences with the Lord through more than sixty years of writing for his glory." Encouraged by her grandmother, Avis began writing poetry at ten years of age. In 1916 she started writing the texts for hymns, something she did in collaboration with many gospel composers, for decades afterward. This gospel song was published in 1937. The song of consecration ponders the significance of the days and hours God has allotted each of us, and the importance of being good stewards of them. May we be challenged this week to meditate on these words and to examine our schedules and priorities. Are we using our minutes and days to honor and worship the Lord. Are our lives and activities consecrated to Him? Can we say with the Apostle Paul, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (Philippians 1:21) (1) Only one life to offer Only one tongue to praise Thee And of Thy mercy sing (forever); Only one heart's devotion Consecrated alone to Thy matchless glory, (2) Only this hour is mine, Lord Count for eternity (my Saviour); Souls all about are dying, Help me bring them the message of Calv'ry's redemption (3) Only one life to offer Take it, dear Lord, I pray; Nothing from Thee withholding, Thy will I now obey (my Jesus); Thou who hast freely given Claim this life for Thine own, to be used, my Saviour, Listen to it here. LISTEN British cricketer and missionary Charles StuddPersonal informationFull nameCharles Thomas StuddBorn1860-12-0212 December 1860Spratton, Northamptonshire, EnglandDied16 July 1931(1931-07-16) (aged 70)Ibambi, Belgian CongoNicknameC.T.BattingRight-handBowlingRight-arm medium-fastRelationsBrothers: Arthur, George, Herbert, Kynaston, ReginaldInternational information National sideEnglandTest debut (cap 37)28 August 1882 v AustraliaLast Test17 February 1883 v Australia Domestic team information YearsTeam1881–1884Marylebone Cricket Club1880–1883Cambridge University1879–1884Middlesex Career statistics Competition Test First-class Matches 5 99 Runs scored 160 4,391 Batting average 20.00 30.49 100s/50s –/– 8/14 Top score 48 175* Balls bowled 384 22,655 Wickets 3 444 Bowling average 32.66 17.36 5 wickets in innings – 32 10 wickets in match – 9 Best bowling 2/35 8/40 Catches/stumpings 5/– 73/–Source: Cricinfo, 10 June 2011 Charles Thomas Studd, often known as C. T. Studd (2 December 1860[1] – 16 July 1931), was a British missionary, a contributor to The Fundamentals, and a cricketer. In 1888, he married Priscilla Stewart, and their marriage produced four daughters, and two sons (who died in infancy). As a British Anglican[2] Christian missionary to China he was part of the Cambridge Seven, and later was responsible for setting up the Heart of Africa Mission which became the Worldwide Evangelisation Crusade (now WEC International). As a cricketer, he played for England in the 1882 match won by Australia, which was the origins of The Ashes. A poem he wrote, "Only One Life, 'Twill Soon Be Past", has become famous to many who are unaware of its author. Faith Three Studd brothers, Charles in the middle Studd's wealthy father Edward Studd became a Christian during a Moody and Sankey campaign in England, and a visiting preacher to the Studd home, Tedworth House in Wiltshire, converted C.T. and two of his brothers to the faith while they were students at Eton. According to his conversion narrative, the preacher asked him if he believed God's promises to give believers eternal life, and as Charles would only go so far as to profess he believed Jesus Christ died, the guest pressed the point, and Charles then believed on the Lord Jesus for salvation. Charles later recalled the moment: "I got down on my knees and I did say 'thank you' to God. And right then and there joy and peace came into my soul. I knew then what it was to be 'born again', and the Bible which had been so dry to me before, became everything."[3] Studd continued from Eton to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1883.[4] In 1884 after his brother George was taken seriously ill Charles was confronted by the question, "What is all the fame and flattery worth ... when a man comes to face eternity?" He had to admit that since his conversion six years earlier he had been in "an unhappy backslidden state". As a result of the experience he said, "I know that cricket would not last, and honour would not last, and nothing in this world would last, but it was worthwhile living for the world to come." Studd emphasised the life of faith, believing that God would provide for a Christian's needs. His father died while he was in China, and he gave away his inheritance of £29,000, specifying £5,000 to be used for the Moody Bible Institute, £5,000 for George Müller mission work and his orphans, £5,000 for George Holland's work with England's poor in Whitechapel, and £5,000 to Commissioner Booth Tucker for the Salvation Army in India. Studd believed that God's purposes could be confirmed through providential coincidences, such as a sum of money being donated spontaneously at just the right moment. He encouraged Christians to take risks in planning missionary ventures, trusting in God to provide. His spirituality was intense, and he mostly read only the Bible. Another work that influenced him was Hannah Whitall Smith's The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life. Although he believed that God sometimes healed physical illnesses through prayer and the anointing of oil, he also accepted that some ailments were chronic, and in his last years he regularly took morphine, causing some controversy. Studd also believed in plain speaking and muscular Christianity, and his call for Christians to embrace a "Don't Care a Damn" (DCD) attitude to worldly things caused some scandal. He believed that missionary work was urgent, and that those who were unevangelised would be condemned to hell. Studd wrote several books, including The Chocolate Soldier, or, Heroism: The Lost Chord of Christianity (1912)[5] and Christ's Etceteras (1915).[6] Studd's essay The Personal Testimony of Charles T. Studd became part of the historic The Fundamentals: A Testimony To The Truth, R. A. Torrey and A. C. Dixon (eds) (online version). Studd continues to be best remembered by many for the poem, "Only One Life, 'Twill Soon Be Past". Its memorable verse states: Only one life 'twill soon be past. Only one what's done for Christ will last.[7] This poem inspired the song "Only One Life" written by Lanny Wolfe[8] in 1973.[9] Missionary work Studd began as an evangelist, and among those he influenced were Wilfred Grenfell and Frederick Brotherton Meyer. As a result of his brother's illness and the effect it had upon him, he decided to pursue his faith through missionary work in China and was one of the "Cambridge Seven" who offered themselves to Hudson Taylor for missionary service at the China Inland Mission, leaving for there in February 1885. Of his missionary work he said,Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell.While in China he married Priscilla, in a ceremony performed by a Chinese pastor, and four daughters were born. Studd believed that God had given him daughters to educate the Chinese about the value of baby girls. On returning to England he was invited to visit America where his brother Kynaston had recently arranged meetings which had led to the formation of the Student Volunteer Movement. He also here influenced John Mott. Between 1900–1906 Studd was pastor of a church at Ootacamund in Southern India and although it was a different situation to the pioneer missionary work he had undertaken in China, his ministry was marked by numerous conversions amongst the British officials and the local community. However, on his return home Studd met a German missionary named Karl Kumm, and he became concerned about the large parts of Africa that had never been reached with the Gospel. In 1910 he went to the Sudan and was concerned by the lack of Christian faith in central Africa. Out of this concern Studd was led to set up the Heart of Africa Mission. His speaking on the subject inspired Howard Mowll (Bishop of China, and later Archbishop of Sydney), Arthur Pitts-Pitts (of the Church Missionary Society in Kenya), and Graham Brown (Anglican Bishop of Jerusalem). As an HQ for the venture, the Studds chose 17 Highland Road in Upper Norwood, South London. Like Hudson-Taylor, Studd believed that funds for the work should not be directly solicited. Finances were often tenuous. However, he enjoyed the support of Lord Radstock. Against medical advice, Studd first visited the Belgian Congo in 1913 in the company of Alfred Buxton, and he established four mission stations in an area then inhabited by eight different tribes. Studd returned to England when Priscilla fell ill, but when he returned to the Congo in 1916 she had recovered sufficiently to undertake the expansion of the mission into the Worldwide Evangelisation Crusade with workers in South America, Central Asia and the Middle East as well as Africa. Supported by his wife's work at home, Studd built up an extensive missionary outreach based on his centre at Ibambi in Budu territory. Priscilla made a short visit to the Congo in 1928. That was the last time they met; she died the following year. Studd was joined in his work by his daughter Pauline and son-in-law Norman Grubb, and his grandson Noel Grubb, who died on his first birthday, is buried at Nala, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Studd's daughter Edith married Buxton. In 1931, still labouring for the Lord at Ibambi at the age of seventy, Charles Studd died from untreated gallstones, but his vision for China, India and Africa was maintained by Norman Grubb, who took charge of WEC. In total he spent some fifteen years in China and six in India on his missionary work and then he devoted the rest of his life to spreading the Gospel message in Africa, founding the Worldwide Evangelisation Crusade (now WEC International). To this day, his name remains linked with the evangelisation of the Congo Basin, and in 1930 he was made a Chevalier of the Royal Order of the Lion by the King of the Belgians. His biography, by Norman Grubb, was exceptionally popular, and some of his own writings are still in print. Cambridge Seven The Cambridge Seven The seven Cambridge students who became missionaries (known as the Cambridge Seven) to China were: Charles Thomas Studd Montagu Harry Proctor Beauchamp Stanley P. Smith Arthur T. Polhill–Turner Dixon Edward Hoste Cecil H. Polhill–Turner William Wharton Cassels Cricketing career Studd gained fame as a cricketer representing England's Cambridge University Gentlemen of India and Middlesex. Charles was the youngest and best known of The Studd Brothers. By the time he was sixteen he had started to excel at cricket and at nineteen was captain of his team at Eton College; after school he went to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was also recognised as an outstanding cricketer. Ashes, 1882 Studd played in the original Test against Australia where the Ashes were first named and was one of the last two batsman in. When Studd went in, England needed a mere ten runs to win. However, an eccentric performance by his batting partner Ted Peate led to the match being lost. A week later, the relevant edition of the Sporting Times included a mock obituary which has assumed iconic status: IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF ENGLISH CRICKET WHICH DIED AT THE OVAL, 29 August 1882, DEEPLY LAMENTED BY A LARGE CIRCLE OF SORROWING FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES R.I.P. N.B. THE BODY WILL BE CREMATED AND THE ASHES TAKEN TO AUSTRALIA. Studd's fame lives on though through the inscription preserved on the Ashes urn to this day, which reads, When Ivo goes back with the urn, the urn; Studds, Steel, Read and Tylecote return, return; The welkin will ring loud, The great crowd will feel proud, Seeing Barlow and Bates with the urn, the urn; And the rest coming home with the urn. Studd died in Ibambi, Belgian Congo 16 July 1931. Daughters Salvation Grace Faith Studd (born 1889) married Martin Sutton and, after his death, LtCol David C D Munro Dorothy Catherine Topsy Studd (born 1891) married the Rev Gilbert A Barclay Edith Crossley Mary Studd (born 1892) married Alfred Buxton who worked in Ethiopia Pauline Evangeline Priscilla Studd (born 1894), known as 'Ma Ru', married Lieut Norman Grubb See also List of China Inland Mission missionaries in China 19th-century Protestant missions in China Christianity in China Family Studd brothers Kynaston Studd George Studd References ^ Bach, Thomas John (1955). 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