

THE COST OF A GAME OF CARDS

Col. Rahl, the Hessian commander at Trenton, was in the middle of a game of cards when a courier brought a message to him. Rahl casually put the letter in his pocket, but he did not read it until the game was finished.

When he finally opened the note, he read that George Washington was crossing the Delaware River. Rahl quickly rallied his men, but it was too late. He died just before his regiment was taken captive.

Because of misplaced priorities, Rahl lost his honor, liberty and his life.



Many a potential success has been thwarted because of misplaced priorities and unexecuted resolutions. In evaluating your immediate future and your ultimate goals, ask yourself these questions:

1. What do I hope to achieve in my life? What is my motivation for accomplishing these goals? Are my actions helping me attain my goals?
2. Is this what God requires of me? Considering the talents, traits, experiences and abilities He has given me, does it seem likely that this is what God has prepared for me to do and desires that I accomplish for His sake?

If your answer to this second question is no, then your priorities need to be realigned. If your answer is yes, then do what you know to do with as much energy and enthusiasm as possible.

Respect the Lord your God, and do what He has told you to do. Love him. Serve the Lord your God with your whole being, and obey the Lord's commands and laws (Deuteronomy 10:12-13).

– Beecher Hunter