

**TRUTH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Dansoman, Exhibition Estates, Accra, Ghana**

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**Sermon Outline For Family Worship**

April 5th, 2020

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**What Will Profit Your Soul?**

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?  
Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36-37KJV)

**Introduction:**

The words of the Lord Jesus Christ are reasonably known, and perhaps famous among a vast number of churchgoers. The words follow our Lord's teaching about His impending death, burial and resurrection vv.31-32. His death on the cross was something our Lord knew, and spoke about it "openly". Peter, out of love and ignorance, attempted to "rebuke" the Lord. Our Lord rather rebuked Peter v.33. He then called all the disciples together, and among many things uttered the memorable words above. Verse 36, is essentially a rhetoric question - needing only deep reflective thought.

Our Lord Jesus Christ by this question, calls upon all to think deeply, and soberly...

- What is more valuable to a man?
- What is more important in life?
- What would a man prioritize above his very soul, his future, his afterlife?

Beautifully lodged in the question of our Lord are four (4) great MATTERS.

These are:

- I. A Clear Doctrine of the Soul
- II. A Clear Difficulty of the Soul
- III. A Clear Danger of the Soul
- IV. A Clear Direction for the Soul

## **A Clear Doctrine of the Soul.**

The word 'soul' or 'souls' is used five hundred and one times (501×) in all of Scripture.

1. It is the life of every man. Every man is made up of body and soul. The body is the house of the soul. God, we are told " formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" ~ Gen. 2:7. Thus, without the soul, man is mere dust, lifeless.
2. The soul, so long as, is in man, man has life - the will, the intellect, the affections..and thus is capable of thinking, making choices, loving and hating, doing and acting out one's wishes...Lk. 12:19
3. The soul, once created, never dies. It is immortal, undying...Rev. 6:9
4. The soul has only two destinations upon leaving the body of a man - heaven or hell. Lk. 16:23--and is conscious - can see, know, feel.
5. The soul can be hurt, starved, depressed, frustrated, discouraged, and grieved.Ps 42:1-6
6. The soul can be lost through neglect, carelessness, physical and spiritual death.
7. The soul cannot be traded with, trafficked with, or exchanged with anything else - Mk. 8:37

Thus, before us, is the doctrine of the human soul. How important the soul is! How precious and valuable is the soul of man

## **A Clear Difficulty of the Soul.**

The soul is marred, tainted with sinful thoughts, having evil affections and desires, pursuing an evil cause of action. The Fall of Man has completely deformed man's soul. Thus, man is crooked, warped in sin.

1. Man is a rebel against God
2. Man is an enemy of God
3. Man is a lover of sin
4. Man is disobedient, defiant, proud
5. Man is deceitful, hypocritical
6. Man is evil, diabolic, and wicked.
7. Man is doomed, condemned

In short, man is a sinner, and God says,.. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die.." Ezek. 18:20. Man or the soul shall give account to his Creator. "Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die" Now death,

in this case, is NOT annihilation, (complete destruction) but rather, eternal separation from God, from all good, and peace. The soul thus, cannot love God, nor do and pursue good. Another difficulty of the soul is its inability to save itself. Man cannot save himself!

Man needs a quickening, a work of Christ upon his soul.

### **A Clear Danger of the Soul.**

The soul has a will and freedom. Yet it can be lost! How is a soul lost?

1. By having no desire for Christ, for spiritual things
2. By not reflecting on the reason and purpose for its existence
3. By living in complete self-will, and independence
4. By pursuing personal pleasure and self-indulgence
5. By scoffing at religion, puffing at all the commandments of God, and neglecting all warnings
6. By pursuing a worldly agenda - love the world, seek approval and applause of the world, be motivated by worldly ideas, policy, and aims
7. By rejecting Christ and his love displayed in His death, burial and resurrection.

The soul needs redemption. And it is only Jesus Christ who can redeem,

"For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever" ~ Psa. 49:8. While men live without Christ in the world, they are in great danger of losing their souls! Who, very sick, will reject a prescribed medicine? None, you may say. But that is the attitude of many. Christ can save their souls. They are in great danger. But they reject Christ! What utter foolishness.

### **A Clear Direction for the Soul.**

Christ meant all to know the futility of chasing the world. It is chasing the wind. Thus, the first great thought for every man must be, 'How can I be saved'? 'How can my soul be cleansed from sin, pollution, the guilt of sin?' 'How can I have peace and assurance that I will not be lost forever'? We must:

1. "Come after Christ" v.34. Seek after Christ; make a diligent search for salvation in Christ
2. Deny ourselves, v.34. That is, put away pride and vaunted ideas of oneself; be willing to submit to Christ's will
3. Take up his cross, v.34. In other words, be prepared to count the cost of following Christ,
4. Follow Christ, v.34. Be a true disciple of Christ - following his commandments, pleading his forgiveness, repenting of sin, adoringly doing his will

5. Follow Christ with devotion, "shall lose his life for my sake", v.35

6. Confessing Christ before men in the world, v.38.

Application:

**CONCLUSION:**

This world will take no man anywhere. This world is doomed, condemned.

This world holds no promise of any good. This world is full of evil. This world is a place of misery, sorrow, disappointment, distress, and tribulations. Part ways with the world...

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Come to Christ and plead with Him to forgive you all your sins. Repent of your sins, and let tears of repentance fall at Christ's feet. Oh, come, come now to Jesus Christ, and be saved!

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God bless you!

Your humble servant,

Pas. Ferguson Kcofie