

## *Price of a Soul*

### **Matthew 16:26**

**For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?**

Jesus had been telling his disciples about his upcoming death and resurrection in verses 21-23. Then in verses 24-25 he speaks to them concerning their taking up their cross and following him.

After three years of being with him, they are really struggling with what he is teaching them, especially the reality of his death. They are thinking in human terms of Jesus being a great conqueror who will right all the wrongs of this world.

Jesus is speaking of spiritual (heavenly) matters while they are focused on worldly issues. His dying on the cross brings forgiveness of sin as well as eternal salvation. The disciples were depending on many human powers to bring them salvation. This is where Jesus asks “*What can a man give in exchange for his soul?*” The answer is “nothing.” By his death and resurrection Jesus has paid the price.

In our mess of a world we, too, are looking for some kind of relief. The more we look, the harder it is to find anyone or anything that will solve the difficulties of this world. Jesus is there by our side in the midst of all the turmoil. Grab Jesus’ hand as he reaches out to you with his presence and peace. All that is left for us is to believe and accept this wonderful gift

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you for doing everything necessary to save us for eternity. Help my faith in you to continue to grow. Amen.