

WHAT WILL I GET OUT OF IT?

TEXT: Matthew 19:27: Then answered Peter and said unto Him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?

Any sinner want to know the answer to this?? Sure, it's a selfish question – but also a sensible one. Peter wanted to be sure he wasn't drilling a dry well hole.

Our whole life is to be invested — and profit or loss is involved. The most important decision you will ever make in a lifetime, between the cradle and the coffin, is right here.

Christ strongly urges us to count the cost — look at the price tag — before coming to the altar for salvation.

The terms of the Gospel must be presented clearly, unmistakably. Jesus told of the obstacles that can, and do, stand in the way of our entering the Kingdom.

Trusting in riches is a hindrance, i.e., you can't trust Jesus — plus your bank account. Why do I mention this first? Because it is in this context where a wealthy young aristocrat approached Jesus with this: "What good thing shall I do...?"

He got the following answer from Jesus, as recorded in **Matthew 19:21**:

Matthew 19:21: If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in Heaven: and come and follow Me.

The cost was too much for this young man. He wanted eternal life on his own terms. His possessions had him under control. God is not content with a selfish life. He was like a pig — the more he got, the more he wanted.



Jesus' answer was a shocking eye-opener to Peter.

Matthew 16:24-25:

²⁴ Then said Jesus unto His disciples, If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

²⁵ For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for My sake shall find it.

To follow Jesus, we must forsake all sinful practices. Covetousness is sin!

Ephesians 5:3-6:

³ But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;

⁴ Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

⁵ For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and of God.

⁶ Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

Ephesians 2:2-3:

² Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

³ Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

That kind of living must come to an end. As followers of Christ, we must mortify the deeds of the body, cease to do evil, learn to do well.

Galatians 5:24: And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Isaiah 1:16-17:

¹⁶ Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

¹⁷ Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Salvation is real surgery of the heart.

Ezekiel 36:26-27:

26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27 And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them.

The real test of our salvation is our attitude toward sin. Jesus shows what our attitude should be, illustrated by His saying,

Titus 2:1-2:

The real test of our salvation is our attitude toward sin.

***1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:
2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.***

Then forsaking ungodly companions:

2 Corinthians 6:14: Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Pass that test and you can tell whether you are really saved or not.

2 Corinthians 6:16: And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the Living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

It's either God's crowd or the devil's — it can't be both. The Bible doesn't mince words with those who try to cross lines, straddle fences, or become religious deviates.

James 4:4: Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

That's what it says in the Bible. Forsake inward, unholy alliances. The cleaning up work is both outward and inward.

2 Corinthians 7:1: Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Galatians 5:24: And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

The hypocrisy of Lot's wife became very apparent under God's test. What she really was inside manifested itself now. Her heart belonged to Sodom.

1 John 2:15: Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Peter has told Jesus, "**We have forsaken all, and followed thee.**"

First, we turn wholly to Him for salvation. It takes this to clean us up thoroughly enough to enjoy full salvation. When we are saved, we are not our own.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20:

¹⁹ What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

²⁰ For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

A true Christian is ready to accept and follow Jesus' instructions.

John 15:14: Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

A true Christian is ready to accept and follow Jesus' instructions.

Then we will seek His likeness in conduct.

1 Peter 2:22: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

1 John 5:1-3:

¹Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth Him Who begat loveth him also that is begotten of Him.

²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His Commandments.

³For this is the love of God, that we keep His Commandments: and His Commandments are not grievous.

John 13:15: For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

1 Peter 2:21: For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps:

The heart — apart from Jesus — is bestial, hostile to the Gospel, and wants self-worship.

This generation needs more example and less theory. We have to make the Lord Jesus Christ real to people. This can't be done apart from salvation. The heart — apart from Jesus — is bestial, hostile to the Gospel, and wants self-worship.

The use of spiritism is caused by the heart wanting power.

What do you get out of it?

- **Salvation from guilty conscience and from bondage of sin**
- **Deliverance from satan**
- **A new life in Christ**
- **Peace and joy.**
- **No longer the wild, sleepless nights of unsatisfied passion and stains of sin.**
- **Rest for your soul in His promise.**

Matthew 11:29: Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

You get a thorough inward and outward cleansing. Wallowing in filth is over. But better clothes, more education — these will not take the dirt off. Jesus' Blood alone can do that.

Temporal advantages — Receive 100 fold and inherit everlasting life. Christ never intended to form a union of beggars.

Matthew 19:29: And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My Name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Romans 8:28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

Matthew 6:33: But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His Righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Do not lessen the content — it says ALL things. This is God's unreserved offer to you.

Philippians 4:19: But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in Glory by Christ Jesus.

Paul told Timothy:

1 Timothy 4:8: For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

To feel right comes from being right on the inside.

Eternal Happiness - What do you finally have if you are not happy? To feel right comes from being right on the inside. Doing wrong makes you feel dirty, soiled; it leaves a bitter taste. When you can't respect yourself, life isn't worth living.

Romans 8:1: There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Christ told Peter:

Matthew 19:28: And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man shall sit in the throne of His Glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

What future do you have? What place in the next world have you Made for yourself? In the New Birth, you are made heirs of God, joint-heirs with Christ, to inherit all things.

Hebrews 9:15: And for this cause He is the Mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the Redemption of the transgressions that were under the First Testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

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