

**TELECAST SERMON FOR
SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024
"WHAT SHALL A MAN GIVE IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS SOUL?"
HEAD PASTOR BILLY HAN, JR.**

Thank you Melvin!

What a glorious day to read the Word of God with you, as I present my sermon, entitled, **"WHAT SHALL A MAN GIVE IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS SOUL?"** generated and inspired by God's Holy Spirit. Have you ever sought help to overcome some monumental problems, and not found that help?

Have you needed guidance and direction to do right in the eyes of God, that is, to live a life above sin? In these time of peril, have you wished for that special protection to sustain you, whether in or out of the House of God? Well, look no further. The answers to these questions are within your reach, and are found in the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. Join us in these weekly telecasts, and I'm sure the solutions will unfold before you.

We find the Bible is full of important questions. The first one is the question that God asked, when He came down into the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve had sinned. We read in Gen. 3:9, "And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, where art thou."

This is a question for everyone, and I ask you in the TV audience. "Where do you stand? Are you on God's side or the world's side? The choice is yours! Are you living for or against Christ? Are you headed for heaven or hell? Where art thou?"

Jesus tells us in John 5:39, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

The second question in the Bible is found in Gen. 4:9, "And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?"

To you, my viewing audience, I ask you, are you interested in your brother man? Have you witnessed to him? Have you told him about the saving grace of Jesus? Have you tried to help him in his difficulties? Yes, we are our brother's keeper.

Job asked this question of the Lord. We read Job 14:14, "If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come." Jesus answered that question, as He rose triumphantly over death, hell, and the grave, when He said in John 14:9, "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; because I live, ye shall live also."

And Jesus also said in John 11:25-26, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" Of course, this speaks not of physical death, but of spiritual death.

There is a question asked by the Philippian Jailer. We read in Acts 16:30-31, "What must I do to be saved?" And Paul and Silas said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." What a wonderful promise by Paul & Silas! To guide souls to the fold, is the intent of the church.

The words of Jesus show us the way. We read in John 3:5 "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

At times, God creates circumstances to enable His Apostles to spread the Gospel, and through their efforts save a soul whose heart has already been softened by God. Such was the case of Philip, whom God gave an opportunity to enlighten a eunuch of Ethiopia.

The circumstances were unique in nature. The Ethiopian visited Jerusalem to worship. Returning home, he sat in his chariot, reading the Book of Esaias, but without understanding. The eunuch had a special readiness about him to receive the gospel, because God's Word was already having an effect upon his heart.

Philip, instructed by an angel to take this route of passage and as an instrument of the Lord, knew exactly what to do. Motivated and guided by the Holy Ghost, Philip approached the eunuch.

We read in Acts 8:29-31, "Then the Spirit said unto Philip. Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?"

Many today are in the same predicament as the eunuch. They are unable to experience the true riches of God's Word because they are not spirit filled and lack understanding. However, their godly sincerity is seen by the Lord and a remedy is sent.

Let us continue reading in verses 31 and 34-38, "And he said, How can I except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet? of himself or of some other man?"

Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture and preached unto him JESUS. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still; and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him."

We see throughout the scriptures, that all souls were baptized by immersion, not by sprinkling. Jesus was the perfect example. He was baptized by John the Baptist in the River Jordan and came "straightway out of the water." Thus, we find Jesus using His instruments to bring another lost and unguided soul to His wounded side.

The testimony by Philip resulted in his convincing the eunuch of the sacrifice made by Christ and that one might be saved by being baptized in the name of the Lord. Through the Holy Ghost, Philip was able to expound on the scriptures, the Law of Moses and the Prophets, and upon the life of Jesus.

Clearly, to have gotten the eunuch to be baptized, Philip must have repeated the words, spoken by Peter just a few days earlier, and that we read in Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

The eunuch's willingness to take on that name illustrates a person sensitive to the Word and convinced by the power of Christ's resurrection. Let us read Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: For there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."

TV viewers, if there is a stirring in your heart this morning after hearing these words, then there is a need for you to re-evaluate your faith to assure your salvation.

Then there is Pilate's important question, as we read in Matt. 27:22, "Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified."

Just imagine, the same people who praised him four days earlier, as they cried out, "Hosanna to the son of David: blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest," now cried out "Crucify Him, Crucify Him."

This is a question every one of you in the TV audience, as well as all others, must answer. God gave His Son for your redemption, now He asks, "What are you going to do with Him?"

The question at the final judgment will not be, "Where did you live," or "how much money did you make," or "how many friends did you have?" The question, then, will be, "What did you do with Jesus Christ?"

Now we come to a tremendous question raised in Mark 8:36-37, "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?"

This is a question of profit and loss, not of dollars and cents, but of the eternal soul, nor for this world only, but for all eternity. You may gain fortune, lands, fame, and power, but these things will profit you nothing, if in gaining them, you lose your soul, which must live forever.

Take the case of the rich young ruler who asked Jesus, "Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" The question of the young man showed that he was ignorant of God's way of salvation, when he asked, "What shall I do?"

Jesus instructed that man to do something, so that he could become a possessor of eternal life. Eternal life is a gift; one does not earn it, or work for it, but receives it as a gift of God, when the individual obeys the Lord's commandments.

Jesus said unto the young man, "Why callest me good? There is none good, but one, that is God. Thou knowest the commandments." And the young man replied, "I have kept the commandments from my youth up."

Let us read Mark 10:21-23, "Then Jesus beholding him love him, and said unto him One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross and follow me. And he was sad at that saying and went away grieved: for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God."

However, we find that Jesus never taught that it was impossible for rich people to be saved. What He did teach was that people cannot be saved by trusting in their riches. No man in this world can gain all its wealth. John D. Rockefeller was worth one and a half billion dollars. At one time his income was \$250,000 a day. He died at the ripe old age of ninety-six.

Just suppose he had lived to be twice that old and had made \$250,000 per day each of those years. And suppose he could have kept it all. When he reached the age of 192, he would have been worth about ten billion dollars. Just imagine, that's only a small portion of the world's wealth.

J.P. Morgan was worth a hundred million dollars. He was a great power on Wall Street. The great financiers said, "We could not get along without Mr. Morgan in financial circles." But when Mr. Morgan died on a vacation trip, the financial world kept going without him.

It is said that Henry Ford's income at one time was one-half million dollars per day. That's over \$20,000 per hour, or \$333.00 per minute, or \$5.50 per second. And yet Mr. Ford never gained all the wealth of the world.

At one time Henry Ford was said to be worth two billion dollars. How much is two billion dollars? Well, suppose you had lived 3,500 years before Christ and that you then possessed two billion dollars. And suppose you had spent, thrown away, or burnt up \$1,000 per day for those 3,500 years. Do you know that today, after disposing of all that money over all those years, you would still be worth several million dollars?

I am simply trying to show you that no man can gain all the wealth of the world, nor gain all its power. Julius Caesar tried that, but he met his end when the dagger of Brutus pierced his heart.

Napoleon at one time was about to bring all of Europe to its knees, but he met his defeat at Waterloo and died in exile, a broken and down trodden man.

In more recent days the Kaiser, Hitler, Mussolini, and others have set out to conquer the world, and they, too have failed. No man can gain the whole world, its wealth, or its power. Men would not be satisfied if they could gain the whole world because money cannot satisfy completely.

If man has five dollars he wants ten, if he has five thousand he wants ten thousand, if he has five million he wants ten million. Many multi-millionaires are still working today, even in their old age, to amass more millions, not because they need it, but because they are not satisfied with what they have.

Paul tells us in I Tim. 6:9-10, "But that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and unto many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the LOVE OF MONEY is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

It's not money that's evil; it's the love of money that's the root of all evil. And sorry to say, God has to send sorrows to draw the children of God back to the faith.

In the 17th verse we read, "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy."

The Bible says that "money filleth." Yes, it fails to bring contentment, it fails to build character, it fails to buy one's way unto the gate of glory. And as Paul tells us in the 6th-7th verses, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content."

Fame and power do not satisfy. When Alexander the Great was thirty-two years of age, he sat down and wept because there was no more territory for him to conquer. Fame and power didn't satisfy him. But some of our leaders have learned the way of true satisfaction and have passed on their thoughts to us. One of them stated, "The world needs more of the love of God."

There has never been a better rule for the conduct of men and nations, as the Golden Rule, spoken by Jesus. We read Matt. 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this the law and the prophets."

Another said, "We will never have everlasting peace until we find it through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace." And David Lloyd George, former Prime Minister of England said, "For England and for the world, it is either Jesus or chaos."

Many have not chosen Christ, and the world today is in chaos. The world is full of violence and sin of every kind. Witchcraft, murder, theft, adultery, fornication, rape, lying, substance abuse, and homosexuality are running rampant.

You name the sin and the world is filled with it. The bad part of it is that, much of it has infiltrated some of the churches.

Certainly, this tells us that pleasure doesn't satisfy. Solomon tried everything under the sun. He became the richest, the wisest, the most-married man in the world. Yet, all that he possessed and experienced, did not satisfy him.

We read in Eccl. 1:2-3, "Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity. What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?"

The nearest thing in English to the Hebrew originating word, "vanity," is the phrase "soap bubbles." which in turn means: emptiness, worthlessness, nothingness, and uselessness! As in the case of Moses, true happiness and joy are not found in the sensual pleasures of this world.

We read in Heb. 11:25-26, "Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: (World) for had respect unto the recompense of the reward."

The pleasures of the world are only for a moment, and a man will never find peace until he repents and returns to a right relationship with God. How foolish is that man who sells his eternal soul for the pleasures of this world! It would be a bad bargain because the loss of the soul can be an unrecoverable loss. It is terrible to lose one's health, but the loss of the soul is fathomless. Death will heal all other losses.

Yes, viewers, it will not matter at the end of the way about your status wealth, health, or mind. The single thing that will matter, then, will be the condition of your soul, and that will depend upon what YOU have done with Jesus Christ. Trust Him, as your personal Savior, Master, and Lord. Abide in Jesus, and you'll be a winner?

I have never heard where Jesus has ever lost a case. It is satan that makes an offer for your soul. Peter tells us in I Peter 5:8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

Satan is saying, "Live your life for me, live in sin and unbelief. I will give you the pleasures of this world and at the end of the way I'll take you to live with me in HELL forever."

That is all satan can offer you, pleasures, a life without happiness and meaning, a cold grave at the end, and an eternity in a hell of suffering. Why would any sensible person, such as those of you in my viewing audience, accept such an offer as that?

Esau sold his birthright for one morsel of meat, as we read in Heb. 12:16-17, "Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears."

On Calvary's cross Jesus purchased our birthright to eternal life. But men everywhere are selling their birthright for the things of this world. Satan is winning the victory over them!

Jesus makes His offer. He says in Matt. 11:28-30, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The gracious invitation of our Lord reaches out to the needy, homeless, and sin-burdened of every creed, color and race.

Isaiah 1:18 says, "Come now, and let us reason together, though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

And remember, him that cometh to Jesus, He will in no wise cast out. Indeed, viewers, Jesus further offers to forgive your sins and write your name in the Lamb's Book of Life. He offers to give you peace, comfort, and happiness, and to take you to an eternal home of everlasting bliss. Now, how can anyone reject such an offer?

Why should you accept the offer of Jesus? It is because He loves you and will do the best for you. His last oration, which occurred in the upper room, is found in John 14:1-3, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you, I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also."

The Lord Jesus knew that He was going to die, but instead of asking for help and comfort, He spent His last hours comforting His disciples. After He had talked with them, He prayed with them, and then, after they had sung a hymn together, He went to the Garden of Gethsemane from which He was taken by the soldiers, and crucified.

In verse 6, Jesus said unto doubting Thomas, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Accept His offer, viewers, because you're going to need Him someday. The way ahead will not always be smooth. Trouble and sorrow lie in wait for everyone. You are going to need the help, strength, and comfort He alone can give. You should accept His offer because He is your only hope for the future.

Paul tells us in Philippians 3:12-14, "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus."

I will close by saying that it will profit you nothing but sorrow and suffering, if you gain the whole world and lose your soul. But it will profit you everything in this life and the life to come, if you will only accept Jesus, as your Lord and Savior.

If you would like to learn more about God's Word and the Church, and view these telecast presentations in their entirety, please visit our website at <http://Jesuscomingsoon.org>.

Until our next telecast, this is your host, Head Pastor William Han, Jr. expressing my sincerest appreciation to each of you, who have allowed us to come into your homes. May the good Lord bless and keep you all in the hollow of His hands.

Entire contents of this text © copyright 2024 by The Apostolic Faith Church (Jesus Coming Soon), Honolulu, Hawaii. All rights reserved.