

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Gain the World and Lose Your Soul (Part 1)

AM Sermon - Tom Betti

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Services will revert to our normal schedule Wednesday November 10, 2021.

Pray: Deb Betti, the Morigeau family, Josiah, Helen Spicer, Emily Hatley, Bill and Peggy.

Traveling/Working:

Radio Programs: Listen to "Searching the scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture: "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Genesis 2:7 (KJV)

Wisdom for Today: "But his flesh upon him shall have pain, and his soul within him shall mourn." Job 14:22 (KJV)

PM Sermon: NONE Services Dismissed

Attendance Last Sunday - 34

For more information check our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

ELDERS:

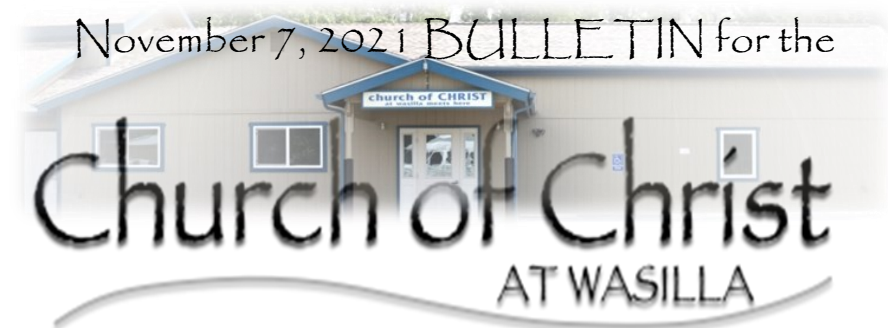
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God's Plan of Salvation
HearRomans 10:17
BelieveMark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Remain Faithful.....Matt 24:13; Rev 2:10; James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES
Sunday:
Bible Classes: 10AM
AM Worship: 11AM
PM Worship: 5PM
Wednesday:
Bible Study: 7PM
OFFICE HOURS
Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!
The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:
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Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773
Visit our website at:
www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us

What Profit Is There To Gain the World and Loose Your Soul (Pt 1) By Bill Beebe

Tom’s lesson this morning will be based on a question asked by Jesus and recorded for us in Mark 8:36–37 (KJV 1900). There Jesus asks; **“³⁶For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? ³⁷Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”** We understand that there is a large profit involved with gaining a reputation in the world. Just look at the movie and TV stars and the profit that they have made. But just exactly what does Jesus mean by losing the soul? And what is the soul anyway?

These are questions that we have to answer before we can even attempt to answer the original question as proposed by Jesus. First of all we must understand that the idea of a human soul is not unique to the Bible. Archaeologist unearthed a stone slab dating to the eighth century BC that claimed a person’s soul inhabited the rock after his death and cremation.¹ Still other researchers trace the concept of a human soul back to the third millennium BC and the land of ancient Egypt². Of course, those of us who believe that the Bible is historically correct will point out that the human soul was introduced into man when God formed Adam and breathed into his nostrils. That passage is Genesis 2:7 with a corresponding passage in the New Testament (1 Cor 15:45). So to us, the idea of the human soul predates all the other reverences, and it existed at the creation of man by God.

But what is it, and why did Jesus assign so much value to it? These are the major questions. Researching different definitions of the soul, I ran across this definition: “Generally speaking, the human soul is the unphysical entity of the human being apart from the physical matter.”³ The Bible mentions the word soul some 458 times. However the Hebrew word that is translated into English as “Soul” is actually used in excess of 780 times in the Old Testament. In addition to this, the Greek word that is translated as “Soul” in the New Testament is used 103 times. Complicating this is the fact that the translators of the King James Version of the Old Testament used 28 English words in translating the Hebrew word. Some of the things we can derive from the Bible are:

- The soul can refer to an individual (Ezek 18:20, 1 Peter 3:20)
- In some instances in the Bible it translated as life (Matt 2:20, Genesis 1:30)
- Still in other passages the word is used to refer to the intellectual and emotional nature of man (Genesis 27:25, Job 30:16)

The Bible, though, doesn’t really define “Soul” but it has some passages that give

go into the house of the Lord.” Psalm 122:1

us a clearer insight as to what it is.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 10:28 that it is separate from the body and that it can not be killed. He also tells us that it is not the heart or mind of man, but that it is something that defines us (Matt 22:37). He goes on to tell us that the soul has emotions (Matt 26:38, Mk 12:20, John 12:27). Paul tells us in Romans 2:9 that the soul can do evil, then in Romans 13:1 he uses it to refer to individuals. In Hebrews 4:12 we learn that the soul and spirit of man are separate things. Still other passages tell us that the soul can be saved (Heb 10:19, James 5:20) and it can be required by God (Lk 12:20).

From these passages we learn that the soul is the thing that makes us who we are. That our souls are immortal, and that the soul feels emotions. We also see that the soul will continue after the death of our bodies. In the story of Lazarus and the Rich Man in Luke 16, the Jesus tells us that the essence of men continues after death and will either enter paradise or torment. Since the body of man dies and returns to dust (Gen 3:19) from which God originally made us, Jesus must be speaking of the soul of Lazarus and the Rich Man in this story. Because our souls will continue, and be recognizable (Luke 16:23) after death, it is the most valuable thing that exist. And this is why Jesus asked the question “What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”. It is a timeless question and one that each of us should consider today. After all our possessions are distributed to others or just dumped when we die, what is the thing that will matter to us? It won’t be the gold or diamonds we held so highly while we were alive, it won’t be the fame we had...but it will be our souls that will either be in paradise or torment and eventually at judgement in Heaven or Hell for eternity. So, what will you give in exchange for your soul?

¹ “The Human Soul: An Ancient Idea” by Meredith F Small, November 28, 2008

² Wikipedia search

³ “Exploring the Concept of the Human Soul from a Religious, Psychological, and Neuro-Scientific Perspective” by Jenna M. Cleversley, Medaille College.

Schedule of Events