

*"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" **Matthew 16:26 KJV***



Most see wealth as a goal to be achieved, rather than a means to an end. It is perceived as the purveyor of pleasure and the bounty of beautiful. How many times have you heard? "If I only had a million dollars!" If having money solved all problems we wouldn't need banks! The happiness we would think to procure is entirely dependent upon our own carnal desires. The flesh is never satisfied. *"Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied."* Men are soon bored, because they are never content! A millionaire was once asked, "How much money is enough?" He replied, "Just a little more." If you cannot be content with a little, a little more will never be enough! *"Let your conversation (behavior) be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He (Christ) hath said, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.' And having food and raiment let us be therewith content."* We spend our lives procuring that which we covet; satisfying our desire for *"the meat that perisheth."* The richest man in the world does not have enough wealth to cheat death! Because God gives eternal Life to every humble penitent; that it requires no payment on our part; and that it requires nothing of our own blood, sweat, and tears to acquire; men are under the delusion it is valueless. How can you place a value on what is priceless and irreplaceable? How would you measure its worth? *"What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"* If you owned the world, it would not be enough. We scurry about frantically trying to supply basic needs forgetting that *"Father knoweth what we have need of before we ask [and] will supply all our need according to His riches in glory."* We are fearful of trusting His provision, because we are faithless and doubt His Word. If you had a billionaire father or a genie in a lamp, would you fret over necessities? Yet God truly owns everything and can create anything from absolutely nothing and He has deemed every believer worthy to be called His child. You are not limited to just "three wishes" with God. Every time you rub the floor with your knees your Father is listening carefully. Do we give Him the same courtesy? *"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and ALL these things shall be added unto you."* If you truly believed that what would you be doing? Why would you not be content? What worries would you truly have? Is not worry truly of our own doing? Our own lack of faithful obedience? Our own lack of trust?

If you could gather ev'ry jewel,  
If you could conquer ev'ry duel,  
You'd not enough your soul to buy,  
You would forever only die! ~CGP

To save our soul from eternal death we must proclaim with the hymn writer, "Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to Thy cross I cling." If I am with God and He loves me, *"no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"* It's a rhetorical question!

*"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."*  
**Matthew 16:25 KJV**