



WHAT IS A MAN PROFITED?

by Barry O'Dell

In the business world profit refers to the money that is made by an individual or company after all expenses, salaries, and taxes are paid. It has to do with financial benefit or gain after performing a service or selling an item. This term, in one form or another, is found 40 times in the Old Testament and 30 times in the New Testament. On one occasion Jesus asked, "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" (Matt. 16:26)? Solomon was so wealthy that silver was as common as stones in Jerusalem (1 Kings

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

VISITORS, WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes
for all ages & fellowship
for lunch every Sunday!

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jerry Davis

Jeffrey Ferrell Joe Owen

Andy Ratliff Tim Wilkes, II

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

10:27), yet he did not have all the wealth of the world. According to Forbes.com in March 2015, Bill Gates was the wealthiest man in the world with a fortune of over \$79 billion! However, he does not possess “the whole world.”

Jesus put the value of one eternal soul in direct focus with His question. The eternal soul was given to man by God on day six of creation (Gen. 2:7). Every human has a soul and will one day stand before God in judgment (Ecc. 12:7; Heb. 9:27). When the Lord returns in judgment the temporary things of this life will be destroyed (2 Pet. 3:10-11). What then? If the soul has not been prepared for eternity there will be no benefit to having wealth, even if one were to have the whole world. Luke 12:13-21 teaches us that it is foolish to place the emphasis in life on hoarding wealth for oneself. Solomon attempted to find happiness in wisdom (Ecc. 1:12-18) and possessions (Ecc. 2:1-11). His conclusion was, “...all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun” (Ecc. 2:11).

Jesus’ question as recorded by Matthew is in the immediate context of following Him (Matt. 16:24-26). Luke’s account is as follows: “If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me...For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away” (Lk. 9:23, 25)? There is no profit or advantage for a person who does not prepare his soul for eternity! The goal of one’s life should not be the pursuit of temporal things to the ...

... neglect of the soul (Lk. 12:15, 20). Jesus came to provide man with the abundant life (Jn. 10:10), and God wants man to, "love life and see good days" (1 Pet. 3:10-12). How does one prepare for eternity? How can we access the abundant life offered by Christ? Jesus said, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me" (Jn. 10:27). The voice of Jesus is found only in the pages of the New Testament. The word of God reveals how to follow Christ and stand prepared for eternity. Paul wrote that salvation is in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 2:10) and, that baptism puts one into Christ (Gal. 3:26-27). God's plan for saving man from sin is clearly revealed throughout the book of Acts and in several other passages in the New Testament (Acts 2:37-42; 8:5-13; 10:44-48; Rom. 6:1-4; Col. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:21). What could possibly be gained by ignoring or changing God's plan of salvation? Hebrews 11:24-27 reveals that Moses understood the "gain" of forsaking the pleasures of sin in order to follow God out of Egypt. Paul wrote of himself, "Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ" (Phil. 3:8).

"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul" (Mk. 8:36)? Our time on earth is a vapor when compared to eternity (Jas. 4:14). We must understand that there is nothing in the world that is more valuable than our own soul. With that understanding, we must then obey God's word in order to spend an eternity with Him (Mat. 7:21-23).

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Weslyn Wadsworth, requested prayers and forgiveness; **Addi Bayless**, recently sick; **Lynn Wilkes**, recent strep; **Carson King**, recent flu; **Lara & Leah Angel**, both are doing well; **Wiley Tuggle**; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**.

Far East Missions Fishers of Men NetCasters

Family & Friends

Jeff & Janie Brister, both had recent heart operations; **Darrell Martin**, Chris' father, has leukemia and prostate cancer, receiving preventative treatments; **Joy Angel**, continual health problems and recent family problems.

Birthdays

3/6	Emma Wofford
3/9	Ginger Bayless
3/9	Jan Daniel
3/13	Carl Zluticky
3/15	Leah Angel
3/21	Ella Brown
3/22	Weslyn Wadsworth
3/24	Johnny Bayless
3/29	Payton Jackson
3/31	Beverly Hays

Get Involved!

VBS Planning Meeting — TODAY
Between services

MSOP Lectureship: Mar 25 – 29, See flyer

Sen. Health & Rehab Devo: Mar 28, 10 AM

Coldwater Singing Night: Mar 28, 7 PM
Song leaders, get songs to Clifton ASAP

Redbirds Game: Apr 14, 6:35 PM
Signup sheet in foyer, \$16 ticket includes hat, hotdog, & drink; Ages 2 & under free

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, March 25

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jim Jackson
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Russell Wadsworth
	Chris Martin
Assist	Jerry Davis
	Davis Johnson
Opening Prayer	Jason Bayless
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell

Afternoon

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Kevin Dixon
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jerry Davis
	Davis Johnson
Closing Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Wednesday, March 28

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Tim Wilkes, II
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jim Jackson

TECH:	Noah Davis
HALL:	Chris & Billie Martin