

Mark 8:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Analysis

What shall man give in exchange for his soul. Rhetorical question. Give dōsei pay offer. In exchange antallagma substitute price. Soul psychēs life eternal destiny. Nothing of equivalent value. Soul is priceless. All worldly gain cannot compensate for lost soul. Eternal realities transcend temporal. Reformed theology emphasizes eternal perspective. This life is brief preparation for eternity. Gain world lose soul is ultimate tragedy. No second chance after death.

Historical Context

Context Rich young ruler loved wealth more than Christ (Mark 10). Judas traded Jesus for 30 pieces silver gained money lost soul. Hebrews warns of Esau who sold birthright for meal could not reverse it. Temporal choices have eternal consequences. No purgatory no second chance after death. This life is time for decision. Early church faced this Roman empire offered comfort compromise or suffering faithfulness. Many chose suffering unto death faithful unto death received crown of life (Rev 2:10). Modern consumeristic Christianity sometimes forgets eternal perspective.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What does question about exchanging soul teach about relative value of temporal versus eternal?
2. How should eternal perspective shape daily decisions priorities values?

Interlinear Text

ἢ	τί	δώσει	ἄνθρωπος	ἀντάλλαγμα	τῆς	ψυχῆς	αὐτοῦ
Or	what	give	a man	in exchange	G3588	soul	G846
G2228	G5101	G1325	G444	G465		G5590	

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