THE PRICE OF A SOUL

Down through the ages there have been many items that man has termed as being "priceless," or invaluable. Priceless objects have a variety of forms. For instance, to a stamp collector a certain stamp is so rare that it is "priceless." To a coin collector a certain coin is so rare that it is "priceless." To the art collector a certain piece of art, and to a book collector a certain book, and so on. In some cases, a person will risk everything, even his own life to obtain that "priceless" object.

Perhaps the most universal and cherished "priceless" object of all is freedom. Nations go to war, committing all they have, literally, just to preserve their freedom - it is "priceless." Husbands and sons, and in some cases even daughters and mothers, go forth to fight and die for their freedom - it is" priceless."

Of all the "priceless" objects, none are eternal, for sooner or later they will pass away

There is one other "priceless" object that we have not mentioned. It is not only "priceless," it is eternal. This object has had a life given and blood shed for it. What is it? The eternal soul of a human being. *Your* eternal soul!

The soul of man is of such importance that the Lord Jesus Christ 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?" (Mt. 16:26)

Why is the Lord Jesus Christ so concerned about man's soul? Because man is under the curse of sin because of Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden (Ge. 3; Ro. 5:12), he is a vile and wicked person by nature (Ro. 3:9-23) and will be paid for his sins (Ro. 6:23). An unsaved person is already condemned by God (Jn. 3:18) and has His wrath on him (Jn. 3:36). Death will come sooner or later, and then the judgment of a holy God (He. 9:27). All unsaved people will be cast into the lake of fire (Hell) (Re. 20:15; 21:8) where they will suffer for all eternity (Re. 20:10). But wait!

"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." (In 3:17) "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Lu. 19:10) God loves each and every sinner (Jn. 3:16; Ro. 5:8) and does not want to see any person lost and going to Hell (2 Pe. 3:9). The love of God is so great that He sent His only Son to the cross of Calvary, to die in our place, to be the sacrifice for our sins, to shed His blood as the full and final payment (He. 9:11-14, 26, 28).

The grave could not hold Christ, for God raised Him from the dead bodily (Lu. 24; 1 Co. 15:4) and today He is at the right hand of God the Father.

My friend, God is concerned about *your* soul, for it is eternal and "priceless." If you are not now saved, you need to be before it is eternally too late. To receive God's salvation all you need to do is, with all sincerity and absolute faith, acknowledge to God that you are a sinner, ask for His forgiveness on the merit of Christ's shed blood, and for Jesus Christ to come into your heart and save you for all eternity. If you will do this in total faith believing, then on the authority of God's Word you may know that you are saved (1 Jn. 5:11-13).

Will you gain the whole world and lose you own eternal soul? Or will you right now trust Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour? *Your* eternal, "priceless" soul weighs in the balance.

If you have received Christ as Saviour, or if you would like additional information on the Christian life, please write to the address below. Helpful Christian literature will be sent to you free of charge.

-Richard A. Ciarrocca