

## Matthew 16:24-28 **Life or Death – Choice is Yours – Worth of a Soul**

24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. 26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. 28 Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom." NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

**Deny Self, Take up Cross, Follow Jesus** [Matthew 10:34-39, 16:24-28, Mark 8:34-38, Luke 9:23-27, 17:32]

- ✚ If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. [Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23]
- ✧ And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. [Matthew 10:38, 16:24, Mark 8:34, 10:21, Luke 9:23]
- ✧ It will require personal choice and self sacrifice. [Matthew 10:37, Luke 14:26, Acts 5:17-42, Revelation 3:4]
- ✧ He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. [Matthew 10:37, Luke 14:26]
- ✧ To follow Jesus, requires a choice to give up ones own rule over his life and surrender his will in obedience to Christ, whatever it costs to do so, as Jesus did in the Garden, when He prayed, "Not My will, but Yours, be done." [Matthew 26:36-44, Mark 14:32-36, Luke 22:39-42]
- ✧ Paul also taught us to make the choice to walk worthy of the Gospel and of Christ Jesus. [Philippians 1:27, Colossians 1:9-10, 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12, 2 Thessalonians 1:3-6]
- ✚ If we do not hold Jesus and His Gospel as our highest priority, we will certainly find ourselves unworthy of the Kingdom or of Jesus Christ. [Matthew 10:37-38, 16:24, 22:8, Luke 21:36]

### Worth of a Soul.

- ✚ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? [Matthew 16:25-26, Mark 8:35-37, Luke 9:24-25]
- ✚ He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it. [Matthew 10:39, 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, 17:33]
- ✧ This is the choice you will be forced to make during the Great Tribulation when the Antichrist and False prophet come on the scene and demand that you take the "Mark of the Beast" to save your life, but the end result is that you will seal your fate to the Lake of fire if you capitulate. [Revelation 13:11-18, 14:9-11, 19:20, 20:4]
- ✚ For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." [Mark 8:38, Luke 9:26]

**Rewards on the Day of Judgment** [Matthew 10:34-39, 16:24-28, Mark 8:34-38, Luke 9:23-27, 17:32]

- ✚ For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. [Matthew 16:27, 19:28, 24:30, Mark 8:38, Luke 9:26, 21:27]
- ✧ "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to **every one** according to his work. " [Revelation 22:12]
- ✧ The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth." [Revelation 11:18]

- ✧ Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him. [Isaiah 40:10]
- ✧ "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him." [Jude 14-15]
- ✧ This separation will take place at the Judgment Seat of Christ, at the beginning of the **Kingdom of Heaven**, when Jesus welcomes the Saints into the Kingdom, and dismisses the wicked into the **Eternal Fire**. [Malachi 3:1-5, 18, Isaiah 1:24-31, Ezekiel 20:33-38, Matthew 3:10-12, 7:13-23, 13:24-30, 36-43, 16:27, 22:1-14, 25:14-30, 31-46, 47-48, 49-50, 24:45-51, Luke 3:16-17, 12:35-48, 13:23-30, Romans 2:3-6, 14:10-12, 2 Corinthians 5:10, 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10, 2 Timothy 4:1, Revelation 11:16-18, 22:12]

**Some Standing Here will see the Lord coming in His Kingdom.**

- ✧ Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom." [Matthew 16:28, Luke 9:27]
- ✧ And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power." [Mark 9:1, Luke 9:27]
  - ✧ Perhaps Mark and Luke had the more accurate quote of the statement of Jesus because the Kingdom did come with power When Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to empower the Church with understanding, boldness, and miraculous signs on the day of Pentecost. [Acts 2:1-47]
  - ✧ However Jesus was seen in His glory.
  - ✧ For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father. [Matthew 16:27, Mark 8:38, 13:26, Luke 9:26, 21:27]
  - ✧ Jesus did appear in His Glory. [Matthew 17:1-2, Mark 9:2-3, Luke 9:28-32, Acts 9:1-8, 22:6-11, 26:12-15, Revelation 1:1-20]
  - ✧ When Jesus appeared after His resurrection, He met with the children of the Kingdom and taught things pertaining to the Kingdom. In a sense, He did come in His Kingdom. [Acts 1:1-3]
  - ✧ Jesus had said to the Pharisees, "The Kingdom of God is within you." [Luke 17:20-21]
    - ✧ This statement, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Jesus said to his enemies the Pharisees. [Luke 17:20-21]
    - ✧ So when He said, "The kingdom of God is within you." He was certainly not saying it was within the Pharisees, but rather that the Kingdom is present in the people who believed and were among the Pharisees in the multitude following Jesus.
    - ✧ It is the Saints of God who make up the Kingdom, in whose hearts the Kingdom is alive and powerful.