

Two Ransoms — The Question and the Answer

The question is Mk 8:37, “*For what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?*” The answer is a *ransom*. Jn 3:16 is the ransom He gave for us. Mt 10:39 and Mk 8:35 is the ransom we gave for Him. Mt 16:24-27 is both. Mk 8:34 is to ransom one’s own life. Our Master said that in order to have eternal life, one must ransom, forfeit, give up, and sacrifice one’s own life, denying oneself and taking up his own cross.

Deny means to disown, forget, ignore, and hate his own life in this world (Jn 12:25), for if a person wants to save his life, he must first lose his life. He must lose his own life unto death in baptism (Rom 6:2-5; Mk 8:38; Mt 10:37-39; 10:32-39).

Mt 16:27 – For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels and then He will render, account, and reward each man according to what he has done (2 Cor 5:10; Rev 2:26; Eph 2:10; 4:12). Only those to whom He discloses himself in this age in the Edah will be worthy to rule with him in the next age (Jn 14:15-21,23, and especially verse 24).

Mk 8:36-37 — The question is, “What will a man ransom to have eternal life?” The answer is the same thing the Son of God ransomed to save him (Jn 10:17-18), and the same as God gave for him (Jn 3:16; 12:25-26).

Mk 8:37 is the question: “For what can a man give as an exchange, or a ransom, in return for his life in the eternal Kingdom of the Son of God?” The answer is *his own life* (Mk 8:35). You may say, “Nothing,” in answer to the question in Mk 8:37, but the answer is the very words of the One who made it possible that we could have eternal life in Him by giving up our own life (Rom 6:2-5). That is, “our old life” — the “old man” must die. As certain as He died for us, we must die for him. This is where we “fuse” into one spirit with him (1 Cor 6:17). This death to ourselves makes us compatible to Him, comparable to Him (Mt 10:37-39; Lk 14:26-33; Mt 26:13; Acts 4:33-34, and the many other words of Acts 2:39-42, as well as Acts 5:1-12).