

## The Rich Ruler

### Luke 18:18-30 ESV

And a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”<sup>19</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.”<sup>20</sup> You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’”<sup>21</sup> And he said, “All these I have kept from my youth.”<sup>22</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”<sup>23</sup> But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. <sup>24</sup> Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, “How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”<sup>25</sup> For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”<sup>26</sup> Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?”<sup>27</sup> But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”<sup>28</sup> And Peter said, “See, we have left our homes and followed you.”<sup>29</sup> And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,<sup>30</sup> who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life.”

- He was given the perfect answer to his question and walked away.
- Has the Lord pointed out something in your life?
- Have you responded in obedience? Or walked away?

### Luke 18:18 ESV

And a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

### Mark 10:17 ESV

And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

- What must we do to inherit eternal life?

### Luke 18:19 ESV

And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.

- Was this man seeing Jesus for Who He is?

### Psalm 34:8

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

### Luke 18:20 ESV

You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’”

- Why only mention 5 of the 10 commandments?
- He left out coveting and then addressed his lack.
- If we could keep the Law we would live, but we can't!
- Yet he has this response:

### Luke 18:21 ESV

And he said, “All these I have kept from my youth.”

**Matthew 19:20 ESV**

The young man said to him, “All these I have kept. What do I still lack?”

**Luke 18:22 ESV**

When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”

**Romans 3:20-25a ESV**

For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

**Galatians 2:21 ESV**

I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

**Mark 10:21 ESV**

And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”

- Jesus called him to make an eternal investment.
- Jesus invited him into eternal life!

**Luke 18:23 ESV**

But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich.

- Jesus identified his wealth as his problem and obstacle.
- Holding on to our idols will keep us from following Jesus.
- Have you overestimated the value of money?
- Are you investing it in the right place?
- No one will be saved by giving all their wealth to the poor.
- The point – You can't serve two masters! He loved his money!
- He did not see his sin and when revealed he rejected repentance.
- The Lord knows the trappings of wealth and all of its deceptions:

**Luke 18:24-25 ESV**

Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, “How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”

- This confronted the broken “Blessing Paradigm”
- What is the point of Jesus' illustration?

**Luke 18:26 ESV**

Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?”

**Luke 18:27 ESV**

But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

- It is not possessing riches that keeps from inheriting eternal life it is that they possess us.
- Are you trusting in money?
- Salvation is impossible in our work, we must trust in His!
- Remember it is a GIFT! And the Lord is generous!

**Luke 18:28-30 ESV**

And Peter said, “See, we have left our homes and followed you.”<sup>29</sup> And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,<sup>30</sup> who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life.”

**Mark 10:29-30 ESV**

Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel,<sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

- The challenge here is to change, turn, repent.
- We don't get to follow Jesus on our terms but His!
- This is a warning to us all!
- Is the Lord pointing out something that is hindering you from following?

Prayer / Challenge