

Series "The God Who Serves"
"When Too Much Is Too Little"
Mark 10:23-31
Study-39

What Jesus Says Is Impossible, Is A Wealthy Person Saving Themselves! Mark 10:25

Mark 10:27

This account is recorded in the first 3 Gospels: Matt 19:23-30; Mark 10:23-31; Luke 18:24-30.

Mark 9:14-10:52 – Lessons For Discipleship: Critical Instruction for the training of His disciples. Mark 10:23-31 – Lesson On True Wealth.

The Thought Of Our Passage: "The World Prizes Worldly Riches, Which Are A Distraction From Gaining The True Riches Which Come Through God's Grace"

1. Verses 23-27 – The Disadvantage To The Rich

2. Verses 28-31 – The Reward Of Discipleship

1. Verses 23-27 – The Disadvantage To The Rich:

Mark 10:23

"And Jesus, looking around," – Context: Mark 10:17-22

Mark 10:21-22

Mark 8:35-37

Luke 18:24 – "And Jesus looked at him and said,"

"Jesus, looking around, said to His disciples," – Jesus is now wanting to impress His disciples deeply with these words.

"How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!" – This is called, "One of the hard sayings of Jesus."

Wealthy – "those that have more than their needs met."

Why is it “hard for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God?”

1. Wealth Enslaves – Matthew 6:21

1 Tim 6:10

2. Wealth Leads To Selfishness – Self-Gratification, Self-Indulgence
– Luke 16:19-21

3. Wealth Produces False Sense Of Security

1 Tim. 6:17

4. Wealth Makes Us Un-Teachable

Mark 10:24

“amazed” – “to be frightened, imperfect passive; a look of blank astonishment was on their faces.”

The Rabbis – said, “that with alms, one purchases his redemption.”

Talmud – “Alms giving is more excellent than all offerings and is equal to the whole Law.” One writing said, “Alms will atone for sin.”

Matthew 6:19-21

Matthew 6:24

Luke 16:19-30 – Rich Man Versus Lazarus: Parable Of The Rich Fool –
Luke 12:13-21

Revelation 3:17

“But Jesus answered again and said to them, ‘Children’,” – Only time Jesus called them this in the first 3 Gospels; “affectionate address, such as child (son), my child, children.”

“how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!” – (Context) “how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!”

Mark 10:25

“It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle” – many have tried to lessen what Jesus is saying here.

Luke uses the Greek word for needle that literally means – “the surgical needle”

“In any position of privilege, there is the danger that the status and power become primary.”

Mark 10: 26

“astonished” – “shocked, knocked out of their senses”

Jeremiah 13: 23

Mark 10: 27

This statement kills the notion of “Good Works”; “The notion that wealth is a sign of the blessed life.” Romans 3: 19

God’s plan is for us to be utterly hopeless, so that we may hope in Him alone.

“but not with God; for all things are possible with God.” – This is the note of grace.

John 1: 12

1 Tim. 6: 6-10

1 Tim. 6: 17-19

2. Verses 28-31 – The Reward Of Discipleship:

Mark 10: 28

“Behold, we have left everything and followed You.” – “We did what you asked of us; gave it all, and are following you!”

Matthew 19: 27 – “what then will there be for us?”

Mark 10: 29

“for My sake and for the gospel's sake,” – It was not to be done for self-righteousness, not so we could get rewards, but for His glory and the salvation of the lost.

Mark 10: 30

“hundred times” – “many times over”

Think about the reality that we are given salvation before we have done a thing! God’s blessings begin before service.

“along with persecutions;” – It is proof that we really are children of God.

Matthew 19:28

Mark 10:31

Jesus gives a parable and uses the verse again, Matt 20:1-16 – Laborers In The Vineyard. Matthew 20:16 – It means everybody ends up equal. This promise of blessing now, blessing in the Kingdom, and blessing in eternity is equally the same for everybody.

1. Warning: Those first in their own eyes will be last in God’s eyes on that day.
2. Encouragement: The faithful will discover that their rewards were much greater than they anticipated.

Application:

1. A Believer Should Look At Riches – As A Great Handicap, To Receiving Eternal Life. Riches Enslave, Tend To Make Us Selfish, Give A False Sense Of Security And Make One Un-Teachable.
2. God Will Reward The Faithful Disciple. We Will Be Blessed Now, Blessed In The Kingdom, Blessed In Eternity. The Faithful Will Discover That Their Rewards Were Much Greater Than They Anticipated.