



Mark 10

17-27

New International Version

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

“**Why do you call me good?**” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’”

“Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

“Christians are made, not born.” Tertullian



Sermon Notes

THE QUESTIONS JESUS ASKED

“Addition-To” Mentality: what must I do “in addition-to” what I’m already doing?

Jesus was in the habit of asking such disarming questions.

Jesus challenges our GOAL

What is your standard of ‘good’? Is it “who I am” or “what I do”?

Performance based or Presence Based

“You can’t change the fruit without changing the root.” S.Covey

Jesus challenges our PATH

Poverty of Privilege: *hopelessness and insignificance*

Approval, privilege, position all came from his treasure

“Where you stumble, there lies your treasure.” J.Campbell

Jesus offers the Love Mentality

Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack...”

“Do you love me more than these?” Jn 21:15

LIVING WORD

An Amazing Contrast

"Though He was God, He did not demand and cling to His rights as God. He made Himself nothing; He took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form. And in human form He obediently humbled Himself even further by dying a criminal's death on a cross" (Phil. 2:6-8)

Can you imagine Queen Elizabeth II giving up her crown to live as a pauper? Putting aside her palace, dressing in rags and wondering about her next meal? That's absurd.

When God's Son, Jesus Christ, was voluntarily born in a humble manger in Bethlehem, the only people who worshiped Him were lowly shepherds. The stable must have been drafty and not very private. What kind of place was this for the Sovereign of the universe? Where were His crown and His scepter?

Jesus did not live like a king either. He became tired and hungry, was ridiculed, beaten, spit upon, humiliated. The soldiers ripped off His clothes, and He was taken to court before a cruel ruler named Herod. The crowd shouted that they wanted Him killed. All His friends ran away, afraid for their own lives.

Then He was cruelly nailed to a cross in front of a jeering crowd. He could have shaken the world in defiance, but all He said was, "Forgive these people, because they don't know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

Jesus did this because God loves us so much. To communicate His love, He had to become one of us -- to walk, talk, eat, and look like us.

Your View of God Really Matters ...

Are you hesitant to completely sell out to God because you are afraid of what you may have to give up? Look at what He gave up for you. Aren't

you glad He didn't "hesitate?" Don't you think you can trust a God who loves you that much?

"A man who denies his past is a man who truly denies himself a future, for he refuses to know himself, and to deny knowledge of oneself is to stumble through life as handicapped as the blind mute." – Tobsha Learner, *The Witch of Cologne*

"Life is filled with unanswered questions, but it is the courage to seek those answers that continues to give meaning to life. You can spend your life wallowing in despair, wondering why you were the one who was led towards the road strewn with pain, or you can be grateful that you are strong enough to survive it." J.D. Stroube, *Caged by Damnation*