

Jesus Schools a Rich Man on His True Sinfulness (Luke 18:18-27)

¹⁸ Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁹ So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good but One, *that is*, God. ²⁰ "You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, 'Do not murder, 'Do not steal, 'Do not bear false witness, 'Honor your father and your mother.'" ²¹ And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." ²² So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." ²³ But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. ²⁴ And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ "For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?" ²⁷ But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

1. A Rich Ruler Asks Jesus a _____ Question

¹⁸ Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

- a. *The way he addresses Jesus: "Good Teacher"*
- b. *What he asks Jesus: "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?"*
- c. *His affirmation of his condition: He knew he wasn't acceptable.*

2. Jesus Questions the Ruler About " _____ "

¹⁹ So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good but One, *that is*, God.

- a. *The question: "Why do you call me good?"*
- b. *The point: Only One is good – God. (You are not good. Am I God?)*

3. Jesus _____ the Rich Ruler's Question

²⁰ "You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, 'Do not murder, 'Do not steal, 'Do not bear false witness, 'Honor your father and your mother.'"

- a. *Jesus appeals to the ruler's learning*
- b. *Jesus reviews five commandments*

4. The Rich Ruler _____

²¹ And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth."

- a. *His claim of complete obedience*
- b. *His claim of the duration of his obedience*

5. Jesus _____ the Rich Ruler's Claims

²² So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. **Sell** all that you have and **distribute** to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and **come, follow** Me.

- a. *Jesus listens*
- b. *Jesus lists the one lacking thing (and the missing commands)*

c. *Jesus commands the rich ruler (why?)*

- *All you have*
- **Sell** (x!)
- **Distribute** (x!) *the monies to the poor*

d. *Jesus promises eternal riches*

e. *Jesus prompts for lifestyle-change obedience*

- **Be coming** (~!)
- **Be following** (~!)

6. The Rich Ruler _____ in Sorrow

²³ But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

- a. *He becomes very sorrowful*
- b. *His snare – his great riches*

7. Jesus _____ a Principle

²⁴ And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!

- a. *Jesus sees the rich ruler's sorrow*
- b. *Jesus states the struggle of the rich*
- c. *Jesus shares the eternal consequence*

8. Jesus _____ the Principle

²⁵ "For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

- a. *A comparison with a camel and a needle*
- b. *The difficulty of the rich (anything we can rely on – have, are, do...)*
 - *Their reliance – wealth is what I rest on for happiness and success*
 - *Their reluctance – nothing else can take the place of what I have*
 - *Their crossroad – ONE choice*

9. The Listeners Reel Back in _____

²⁶ And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?"

- a. *Their wrong view of the rich*
- b. *Their wrong view of salvation*

10. Jesus Highlights the _____ of God

²⁷ But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

- a. *What men consider impossible (**adunata** = undoable, impossible)*
- b. *Is possible in the presence of God (**dunata** = doable, possible)*

TAKEAWAYS:

- What we have, what we are, & what we can do _____ save us.
- Only God has the _____, process and payment to save us.