

“What Shall I Do To Inherit Eternal Life?”

A. The Galilean Ministry: Who Jesus Is (the Christ the Son of God) - 1:14-9:50

B. The Judean Ministry: What Jesus Came To Do (10:1-15:41)

1. On the Way to Jerusalem (10:1-52) – Five Tough Questions:

- a. Divorce & Remarriage? – 10:1-12 (cf. Mt. 19:1-9) [Interpretation]
- b. Bless children? – 10:13-16 [Benediction]
- c. **Eternal life / Rewards? – 10:17-31 [Information]**

¹⁷ As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone. ¹⁹ “You know the commandments, ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’ ” ²⁰ And he said to Him, “Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up.” ²¹ Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, “One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” ²² But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property. ²³ And Jesus, looking around, said to His disciples, “How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴ The disciples were amazed at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ “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 They were even more astonished and said to Him, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷ Looking at them, Jesus said, “With people it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God.” ²⁸ Peter began to say to Him, “Behold, we have left everything and followed You.” ²⁹ 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 farms, for My sake and for the gospel’s sake, ³⁰ but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life. ³¹ “But many *who are first* will be last, and the last, first.”

1) Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler – v. 17-22

2) Jesus and the Disciples – v. 23-31

Discussion and Application:

1. In Mark 10:13-16 Jesus said that little children (babies) were an illustration of the only way people could enter the kingdom of God (needy & helpless; nothing to offer; must receive it as a gift). How is the young man in verses 17-22 an illustration of the exact opposite of that? How is he an illustration of “religious” people all over the world who think they will get in but actually won’t?
2. Why did Jesus use some of the 10 Commandments (Exodus 20) to answer the young man’s question about what he must do to inherit eternal life? What should the 10 Commandments have shown the young man about himself and his need? Why did he believe that he had kept all of the Commandments from his youth up?
3. Have you kept all of the 10 Commandments perfectly? What happens if you keep all of them but fail in keeping just one of them? (See James 2:10) Most people think of the 10 Commandments as external rules, but Jesus tells us there are internal ways in which we violate the Commandments (see Mt. 5:20-28). Have you ever been angry with other people? Have you ever had lust in your heart for someone else?
4. Why did Jesus tell the man to sell his possessions and give to the poor? What was he trying to show the man about his heart condition? Which of the 10 Commandments was he violating?
5. Read Mark 1:14-15. How does the message Jesus gave the young man match with the message in chapter 1 (repentance and faith)? Have you repented of your sin and put your faith in Jesus alone for eternal life? Have you admitted that you are weak and helpless and have no way of getting into God’s kingdom except by what Jesus has done for you?
6. What is the point Jesus is making by talking about a camel going through the eye of a needle? Is that possible? How is salvation possible? How can we enter the kingdom of God?
7. In verse 28 Peter is excited because he believed he and the other disciples had sold their possessions and followed Jesus. What did Jesus say was the reward for doing so now and in the future?
8. What does Jesus mean by “many who are first will be last, and the last, first”? How does this relate to the contrast between the babies and the rich young man?
9. What does the resurrection of Jesus from the dead have to do with all of this? What did He accomplish when He died on the cross? (“it is finished” or “paid in full”) What did the resurrection prove about the payment Jesus made on the cross? If Jesus raised Himself from the dead what is He now able to do for us when we die?
10. Are you rich in the things of God? Do you know for sure that you are going to be in God’s eternal kingdom? On what basis? Are you willing to confess your sin and put your trust in Jesus and His finished work on the cross alone to “receive” the kingdom of God as a gift?

Suggested prayer if you want to respond to God’s gracious offer of eternal life through faith in Jesus:

“Dear Lord, thank you for the gift of eternal life. I know I am a sinner and that I cannot save myself. I believe Jesus is the Son of God and that He died for my sins and rose again from the dead. I now turn from my sin and put my complete trust in You alone for eternal life. Thank you for saving me. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

If you have trusted in Jesus alone for your eternal salvation please let us know. We would love to help you grow in your relationship with God and equip you to serve Him and others for His glory. Talk to a counselor after the worship service and/or call the church office to speak to a Pastor (818-776-1500). It would bring us great joy to serve you!