

Entrance and Benefits of the Kingdom of God

Mark 10:13-31

FAITH BUILDERS



Jesus Blesses the Little Children (10:13-16)

- Parents brought children to Jesus so He would bless them (v13a)

Luke 18:15a ¹⁵And they were bringing
even their babies to Him

Matthew 19:13a ¹³Then *some* children were brought to
Him so that He might lay His hands on them and pray

Jesus Blesses the Little Children (10:13-16)

- **Parents brought children to Jesus so He would bless them (v13a)**
- **The disciples disapproved and saw this as inappropriate (v13b)**

Possible reasons why:

- To protect Jesus, thinking He was busy enough.
- They were reflecting the view of the culture that children were a waste of an important teacher's time.
- They thought that Jesus' time was too valuable for it to be spent on those who offered so little.

Jesus Blesses the Little Children (10:13-16)

- **Parents brought children to Jesus so He would bless them (v13a)**
- **The disciples disapproved and saw this as inappropriate (v13b)**
- **Jesus' response**
 - **He was angry at the disciples for their wrong attitudes concerning children and commanded that they be allowed to come (v14a)**
 - **He said that the kingdom of God belongs to such as these (v14b-15)**
 - **Jesus embraced them in His arms and blessed them (v16)**

Jesus Blesses the Little Children (10:13-16)

■ Reflections

- Jesus was indignant at the mistreatment of children, *and so must we*
- Jesus loves the little children, *and so must we*
- Children come into the kingdom humble, trusting, and with nothing to offer, *and so must we*

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

- A man ran up to Jesus, knelt down, and asked Him a question (v17)
 - The man – *a rich, young ruler*

Mark 10:22 ...he was one who **owned much property**.

Luke 18:23 ...he was **extremely rich**.

Matthew 19:20 The **young** man said to Him...

Luke 18:18 A **ruler** questioned Him...

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

- A man ran up to Jesus, knelt down, and asked Him a question (v17)
 - The man – *a rich, young ruler*
 - His question – *what “good thing” must I do to obtain eternal life?*

Matthew 19:16b “Teacher, what **good thing** shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?”

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

- **A man ran up to Jesus, knelt down, and asked Him a question (v17)**
 - The man – *a rich, young ruler*
 - His question – *what “good thing” must I do to obtain eternal life?*

The Man's Spiritual Resume:

- Genuinely and deeply interested in spiritual matters
- Believer in the one true God
- Respect for, and an emotional response to, Jesus and His teaching
- A desire for the assurance of eternal life
- An understanding of God's Law and external conformity to it
- Demonstration of a life of self-discipline

Adapted from message by Tom Pennington, 2/10/2011

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

- A man ran up to Jesus, knelt down, and asked Him a question (v17)
- Jesus corrected his wrong view of man and his sinfulness (v18)
 - No human is morally good
 - God alone is good

Isaiah 64:6 ...And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment...

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

- A man ran up to Jesus, knelt down, and asked Him a question (v17)
- Jesus corrected his wrong view of man and his sinfulness (v18)
- Jesus corrected his wrong view of obtaining eternal life and invited the man to follow Him (vv19-21)
 - Playing to the man's presuppositions, Jesus had him assess himself against God's moral law (v19)

Romans 3:20 ²⁰because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.

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- Jesus corrected his wrong view of obtaining eternal life and invited the man to follow Him (vv19-21)
 - Playing to the man's presuppositions, Jesus had him assess himself against God's moral law (v19)
 - The man replied that he had kept these things from his youth up (v20)

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

- A man ran up to Jesus, knelt down, and asked Him a question (v17)
- Jesus corrected his wrong view of man and his sinfulness (v18)
- Jesus corrected his wrong view of obtaining eternal life and invited the man to follow Him (vv19-21)
 - Jesus lovingly told him to sell all his possessions for the poor, and come and follow Him (v21)
 - A call for true repentance
 - A call to follow Christ as Lord

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

- A man ran up to Jesus, knelt down, and asked Him a question (v17)
- Jesus corrected his wrong view of man and his sinfulness (v18)
- Jesus corrected his wrong view of obtaining eternal life and invited the man to follow Him (vv19-21)
- The man rejected Christ's instruction and offer, and walked away grieving (v22)

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

■ Jesus' follow-up teaching to the disciples (vv23-27)

- It is hard for most wealthy people to be saved (v23)
- The disciples were shocked, because a man like this seems to have all the right credentials (v24a)
- Jesus reiterated his point, but with broader application (v24b)
- Giving up idols like wealth to follow Christ is not humanly possibly, but it is possible with God (vv25-27)

The Rich Young Ruler (vv17-27)

■ Reflections

- Not everyone who seems to be spiritual is embraced by God
- Human credentials can be misleading – true faith and genuine repentance is required to embrace Christ
- Idolatry is, and has always been, a barrier to embracing Christ as Lord
- Only the Spirit can change and regenerate the unsaved heart
- Jesus didn't obscure the demands of the gospel – neither should we

The First Last, and the Last First (vv28-31)

- Peter posed a question to Jesus about the benefits for having left everything to follow Him (v28)

Matthew 19:27 ²⁷Then Peter said to Him, “Behold, we have left everything and followed You; **what then will there be for us?**”

The First Last, and the Last First (vv28-31)

- Peter posed a question to Jesus about the benefits for having left everything to follow Him (v28)
- Jesus responds
 - The benefits of following Him far surpass the personal costs (vv29-30)
 - Equal grace and salvation benefits are given to all who embrace the gospel (v31)

The First Last, and the Last First (vv28-31)

■ Reflections

- The benefits we receive far surpass what we give up by following Christ
- By God's grace, every believer gets to enjoy the benefits of eternal life – in this life and the life to come – regardless of the duration and manner of one's service to Him