

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW PART 9

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Matthew 19:16-22

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"

So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. (By God's standards ... we aren't good ... but pretty evil) But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." (We haven't kept all of the commandments ... we aren't able to do so. We need the help of Jesus ... having His Holy Spirit. We should be trying to live right ... aiming to "hit the mark")

He said to Him, "Which ones?"

Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honour your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' "

The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?"

Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. (Or rather ... the great possessions had him. Do we have it in our heart to give up everything.)

Matthew 19:23-30

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, 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."

When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." *

Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?"

So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

***Mark 10:20-25**

And he answered and said to Him, "Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth."

Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me." (Jesus told the man to sell his possessions and give to the poor ... not to Jesus or His ministry)

But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. (The young man had great possessions ... or ... rather ... THEY HAD HIM!!!)

Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God! 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."

***1 Timothy 6:9-10**

But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, (Money is not a problem ... it's the LOVE of money) for which some have strayed from

the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. (Don't be greedy!!!)

***1 Timothy 6:17-19**

Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

***1 Timothy 6:17 NLT**

Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment.

Matthew 20:1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. (These went out first) Now when he had agreed with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. (They went “in faith” ... no amount was discussed for their wages) Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, ‘Why have you been standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.’ (These people are arguably last to work)

“So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, ‘Call the labourers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.’ And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; (I wonder why? They had agreed on a denarius) and they likewise received each a denarius. And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner, saying, ‘These last men

have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day. But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. **Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things?** Or is your eye evil because I am good?' **So the last will be first, and the first last.** For many are called, but few chosen." (Some people were called when they were young ... some called when they were older ... all still in God's Kingdom ... equally ... it could be referring back to the rich young ruler. He was of first importance. He was looked up to. The disciples could be perceived as least important in the world's eyes)

Matthew 20:17-19

Now Jesus, going up to Jerusalem, took the twelve disciples aside on the road and said to them, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will rise again." (This is their final journey up to Jerusalem. The disciples still didn't "see it")

Matthew 20:20-28

Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.

And He said to her, "What do you wish?"

She said to Him, "Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom."

But Jesus answered and said, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptised with the baptism that I am baptised with?"

They said to Him, "We are able."

So He said to them, "You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptised with the baptism that I am baptised with; but to sit on My right hand

and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.” (James was the first Apostle to be killed. Acts 12:2 Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword).

And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. (No minister should “lord it over the flock”) And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:29-34

Now as they went out of Jericho, a great multitude followed Him. And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, “Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!” (The Messiah)

Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, “Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!”

So Jesus stood still and called them, and said, “What do you want Me to do for you?” (It is still courteous for us to ask)

They said to Him, “Lord, that our eyes may be opened.” So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.

Matthew 21:1-11

Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, (Thursday of Christ's final week?) at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.”

All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:

“Tell the daughter of Zion,

‘Behold, your King is coming to you,

Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, (a donkey was a symbol of peace)

A colt, the foal of a donkey.' "

So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!"

And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, "Who is this?"

So the multitudes said, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee."

Matthew 21:12-17

Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. (This was probably the Friday) And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'

" (This is Jesus cleansing the Temple for the second time ... in His final week)

Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"

And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read,

'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants

You have perfected praise'? (The infants recognised Jesus as The Messiah ... the religious leaders didn't)

Then He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and He lodged there.

Matthew 21:18-19

Now in the morning, as He returned to the city, He was hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away. (Notice: Jesus spoke to the fig tree. He "devoted it to destruction" ... the tree should have been producing fruit ... it was a perverse, useless, fruitless tree. The tree was a "pretender")

Matthew 21:20-22

And when the disciples saw it, they marvelled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither away so soon?"

So Jesus answered and said to them, **"Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done. And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." (We have "to say" ... WITH OUR MOUTH!!! Jesus said, "BE" ... and it shall become)

****Mark 11:20-24**

Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away."

So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you (have received) receive them, and you will have them. (Faith moves mountains. "Whoever" is you and me. We must SPEAK if we want to change a situation. We must "SAY". Believe that you receive WHEN YOU PRAY!! Then you will have what you prayed for. Our faith has to be in two places ... in our heart and in our mouth).

****Luke 17:5-6**

And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."

So the Lord said, "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.