

The Plea of the Rich man?

All Scripture is KJV: Mathew 19:16 & Mark 10:29

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THE RICH MAN?

- ❖ Today I want to preach about the Rich mans approach to Salvation?
 - ❖ And also to clarify for you the list of the 12 Apostles after the fall of Judas Iscariot.
 - ❖ And how similar is the rich man's view of having lots of money compared to Judas Iscariot who sold out Jesus for money also. There really is no difference as we shall see.
1. In Matthew and Mark we read about the real story of a rich man's distorted account of salvation.
 2. This is not just a story, but a very real account of what happened when a real rich man came to Jesus, and kneeled at His feet to talk to Jesus.
 3. What the rich man had to say, leaves us with a profound truth for today, just as it did when that man came to Jesus to explain his Conundrum.

It is this story of the rich man's account that has left many people wondering about whether they are too rich to enter into heaven.

4. And it is this story that people often use to say that poor people get to heaven easier than rich people.
 - ✓ Well is that true?
 - ✓ Is that what Jesus was conveying?
 - ✓ Is that the reason why Jesus said what he said to that man?
- Well let's turn to the Bible for the answers.

Matthew 19:16

¹⁶ And, behold, one came and said unto him, **Good Master**, what good thing shall I do, **that I may have eternal life?**

¹⁷ And he said unto him, **Why callest thou me good?** there is **none good but one, that is, God:** but **if** thou wilt **enter into life**, keep the commandments.

¹⁸ He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness,

¹⁹ Honour thy father and thy mother: and, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

²⁰ **The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?**

²¹ **Jesus said** unto him, **If thou wilt be perfect**, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and **come and follow me**.

²² **But when the young man heard that saying**, **he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions**.

²³ **Then said Jesus** unto his disciples, **Verily I say unto you**, That **a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven**.

²⁴ And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

²⁵ When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, **Who then can be saved?**

²⁶ **But Jesus beheld them**, and said unto them, **With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible**.

²⁷ Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, **we have forsaken all**, and **followed thee; what shall we have therefore?**

²⁸ And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, **That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration** when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, **ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones**, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

²⁹ And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, **for my name's sake**, shall receive an hundredfold, and **shall inherit everlasting life**.

³⁰ But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

- So what did this mean?
- What did Jesus mean by this statement that He made?
- Well to find out we have to also read Mark 10.

Mark 10:29

¹⁵ Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

¹⁷ And when he was gone forth into the way, **there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master**, what shall I do **that I may inherit eternal life?**

¹⁸ And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is **none good** but one, that is, **God**.

¹⁹ Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.

²⁰ And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth.

²¹ Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, **One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.**

²² And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

²³ And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, **How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!**

²⁴ And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, **how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into 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 into the kingdom of God.

²⁶ And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, **Who then can be saved?**

²⁷ And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, **but not with God: for with God all things are possible.**

²⁸ Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, **we have left all, and have followed thee.**

²⁹ And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, **There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's,**

³⁰ But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

³¹ But many that are first shall be last; and the last first.

1. I never really understood this message for a long time. Until I read Mark 10:24. He was trusting in his riches to get him to heaven.
2. But unless you compare the passage of scripture in Matthew and Mark it is hard to understand what the Lord Jesus was speaking about to his disciples.
3. And from the passage of scripture in Matthew, you see the disciples especially Peter asking the question. What do they have to do to earn eternal life? He also

asked the question what was going to happen to them for all the work that they had put in to follow Jesus?

4. I am sure these are all very good questions and we would probably have asked the same questions and perhaps even more I am sure?
 5. So to understand many of the things that are said in the scriptures we are better equipped to answer them correctly when we compare their parallel passages in the bible.
- So by reading Matthew 19 alone it seems to be cryptic to many of us who just read that passage alone.

That is why we are told to study the scriptures by the Lord. Like in 2 Timothy 2:15 and 2 Timothy 3:15.

2 Timothy 2:15 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Timothy 3:15 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁵ And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

- Then from Titus we learn about the limitation of our works. As well as Eph 2:8&9

Titus 3:5

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

- ❖ The scripture tells us that in Matthew 19:28 that because they have “followed” Jesus in the regeneration they; **“ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel”.**
- ❖ Just like we see In Revelation 21 where we are told of the twelve Apostles names which are written in the twelve foundations of the New Jerusalem.
- ❖ So Titus 3 also told us of that regeneration.

Revelation 21 King James Version (KJV)

¹ And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

² And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

³ And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

- And then in verse 14 he mentions the Apostles.

¹⁴ And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

- So something that the Apostles did in their life time caused them to have a position in Heaven, and not only in Heaven, but had their names written in stone for an eternity with the Lord.
 - What was that reason?
 - Well the reason was, it was something that the rich man was not willing to do. He was not will to “follow” Jesus.
- For the apostles. They found the reason of eternal life. They had been given “eternal life” whilst they were still upon the earth.
 - How was that achieved? Well it was because they followed Jesus, and forsook everything that stood in the way to achieve that. Even if it was riches.
1. So.... if you look at the true story of the rich man that we have been studying you will notice that the word regeneration was used.
 2. This word “regeneration” is only mentioned twice in the bible. And it carries with it the translation of something that was “regenerated”?
- How could that be?

Titus 3:5

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the **washing of regeneration,** and **renewing of the Holy Ghost;**

1. The rich man was under the impression that by keeping the Law of the 10 commandments he would be able to go to heaven.
 2. Even though he said that he had kept the Law of the 10 commandments, Jesus knew that he was lying, and so already he had broken the Law.
 3. Not only that he was still a young man, and somewhere in his lifetime he would slip up time and time again in breaking the Law, and Jesus knew that.
 4. That’s why Jesus said to him, that there is **only “One that is Good”,** and **that was God; because God cannot sin.**
- ❖ It was not because the rich man was so rich, but the fact that everyone in some way or another counts himself to have possessions that mean a lot to them, and they don’t want to part with it.
 - a) It may be a hobby that is dear to them, like squash on a Sunday, or some sport, or some other kind of work which they don’t really need to

be engaged in, but they do it just to get richer, or have more money at the expense of Jesus.

- b) Or maybe they just feel that their leisure time is theirs and valuable to them, and don't want to give it up for Jesus so don't come to church
- c) Or maybe it's outings to the dam, or mall that they find more valuable to them than Jesus.

- ✓ People may say that all of the above is not true, or it's not like that. But it really is. It really is that they have not forsaken their riches to follow Jesus.
- ✓ And they even get like the rich man in their reply. When they become grieved when they are told that they have to make a choice, and have to choose between Jesus and their own riches.
- ✓ This is the real message that Jesus tells us about the rich man in Mark 10:29.

➤ **Well we know that the only way that you can be saved is by believing. But just believing does not make you a servant even though you are saved.**

✚ When we examine the 12 Apostles, we are told that Judas Iscariot was one that denied Jesus. He went for the money as his choice over Jesus.

- Then, because of Judas denial of Jesus he was replaced by another elected Apostle.

- 1) The scriptures tell us that he was replaced.
- 2) The first list of all the 12 Apostles was listed in Matthew 10.
- 3) That list was then updated when Judas was replaced.

Matthew 10 King James Version (KJV) – First list of the Apostles

1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these;

The first, Simon, who is called Peter,

and Andrew his brother;

James the son of Zebedee,

and John his brother;

3 Philip,

and Bartholomew;

Thomas,

and Matthew the publican;

James the son of Alphaeus,
and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;
⁴ Simon the Canaanite,
and **Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.**

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:

1. In the Book of Acts 1 we find the new appointed list of all the final 12 apostles.
2. These would be the apostles mentioned in Revelation 21.

Here's the list.....

Acts 1 King James Version (KJV)

1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

² Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

³ To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

⁴ And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

⁵ For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

⁶ When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

⁷ And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

⁸ But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

⁹ And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

¹⁰ And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

¹¹ Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

¹² Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

¹³ And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both

Peter,

and James,

and John,

and Andrew,

Philip,

and Thomas,

Bartholomew,

and Matthew,

James the son of Alphaeus,

and Simon Zelotes,

and Judas the brother of James. *(aka Thaddaeus or Jude)*

¹⁴ These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

¹⁵ And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)

¹⁶ Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

¹⁷ For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.

¹⁸ Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

¹⁹ And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood.

²⁰ **For it is written in the book of Psalms**, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and **his bishoprick let another take**. (*office or position*)

²¹ Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

²² Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, **must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection**.

 An Apostle is an eye witness to the resurrection.

²³ And they appointed two, **Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias**.

²⁴ And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,

²⁵ **That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship**, from which **Judas by transgression fell**, that he might go to his own place.

²⁶ And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon **Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles**.

- 1) Judas Iscariots heart was like the heart of the rich man. And may even be like the heart of so many people who place their “life style riches” over or above that of Jesus.
- 2) Relegating Jesus as a lower priority in the riches of their life.
- 3) What did the rich man do? He did exactly that.
- 4) He chose in his life to go his own way. Because he was grieved when challenged by Jesus with the realty of serving Jesus.
- 5) The rich man chose the “law” of doing good things to getting himself into heaven. This is exactly the answer you will get when you speak to those outside of the church and true salvation. They will always tell you that they have been a good person and God will not send them to hell.

True? Or is it not so? What people say.....

PRAYER.....CLOSE

See bonus information for study purposes below.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Simon (Peter) | 7. Thomas |
| 2. Andrew | 8. Matthew |
| 3. James | 9. James son of Alphaeus |
| 4. John | 10. Thaddaeus (aka Judas) |
| 5. Philip | 11. Simon (“the Zealot”) |
| 6. Bartholomew | 12. Judas Iscariot |
| | (replaced by Matthias) |

Look It Up!



- Matthew 10:2-4
- Mark 3:14-19
- Luke 6:13-16
- Acts 1:13-26

Matthew 10:2-4	Mark 3:16-19	Luke 6:14-16	Acts 1:13	Village Names: JR20:43
Simon <i>called</i> Peter	Simon <i>surnamed</i> Peter	Simon <i>named</i> Peter	Peter	1 - St. Peter & St. Paul
Andrew	James <i>son of</i> Zebedee	Andrew	John	2 - St. Andrew
James <i>son of</i> Zebedee	John <i>brother of</i> James	James	James	3 - St. James
John <i>brother of</i> James	Andrew	John	Andrew	4 - St. Thomas
Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip	5 - St. John
Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Thomas	6 - St. James & St. Philip
Thomas	Matthew	Matthew	Bartholomew	7 - St. Bartholomew
Matthew	Thomas	Thomas	Matthew	8 - St. Matthew
James <i>son of</i> Alphaeus	James <i>son of</i> Alphaeus	James <i>son of</i> Alphaeus	James <i>son of</i> Alphaeus	9 - St. Simon & St. Jude
Thaddaeus	Thaddaeus	Simon	Simon	
Simon	Simon	Judas <i>son of</i> James	Judas <i>son of</i> James	
Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot	Judas Iscariot		

Notes on Disciples-Apostles and their Feast Days

- Peter**, Simon, Simon Bar-Jona, fisherman, called or surname Peter ('rock') "on this rock I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18).
Feast Day June 29, shared with Paul.
- Andrew**, fisherman, brother of Simon Peter. Feast Day November 30.
- James**, fisherman, son of Zebedee, James the Greater, Feast Day July 25.
- John**, the Evangelist (*not* the Baptist), fisherman, brother of James, with him surname Bo-aner'ges, that is, sons of thunder. Feast Day December 27.
- Philip**, Feast Day May 1, shares with James the Less.
- Bartholomew**, Nathaniel. Feast Day August 24.
- Thomas**, the doubter. Feast Day December 21.
- Matthew**, the tax collector, publican, "the faithful". Feast Day September 21.
- James**, son of Alphaeus, James the Less. Feast Day May 1, shares with Philip.
- Jude**, Lebbaeus called Thaddeus, or Thaddeus (Matthew 10:3, Mark 3:18), also Judas the son of James (Luke 6:16, Acts 1:13), *not* Judas Iscariot, author of "The Letter (Epistle) of Jude" (New Testament). Feast Day October 28, shares with Simon.
- Simon**, the Cananaean, called the Zealot. Feast Day October 28, shares with Jude.