

“The Million Dollar Question”

Luke 18:18-30

One of the issues in the recent presidential election was immigration. There are those who feel our borders should be secured and that we should not let illegal immigrants into the country. The opposing view is an open border policy that allows anyone to come into the country. One thing about the Kingdom of heaven is that there will be no illegal immigrants in heaven because the Lord has established a clear pathway to citizenship in heaven. Nobody will cross the border into heaven unless they follow God’s one pathway into heaven.

#1. WHAT MUST I DO TO INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE? – THE MILLION DOLLAR QUESTION, v. 18

- A. The man was a ruler
- B. The man had influence
- C. The man was young, (Mat 19:20)
- D. The man was Jewish, vv. 19-21
- E. The man was extremely wealthy, v. 23
- F. The man had everything the world could offer, v. 23
- G. The man fell on his knees before Jesus (Mk 10:17)
- H. The man identified Jesus as “Good Teacher”
- I. The man had doubts about his eternal status, MK 10:17

#2. INHERITING ETERNAL LIFE IS NOT ACQUIRED BY BEING A GOOD PERSON, vv. 19-21

- A. Jesus’s response, “Why do you call me good?”, v. 19
- B. The Rabbi’s taught that only God is good, v. 19
- C. Jesus’ caused the rich man to consider Jesus’ identity, v. 19
- D. Jesus quoted some of the 10 com from 2nd tablet, v. 20
- E. The mans’ response, “All these I’ve kept since a boy”, v. 21
- F. Reveals his self- righteous perception of himself, v. 21

#3. INHERITING ETERNAL LIFE REQUIRES A TOTAL COMMITMENT TO JESUS, vv. 22-25

- A. Jesus’ response, “you still lack one thing” (cf Mk 10:21)
- B. Sell everything & give it to the poor, v. 22
- C. You will have treasure in heaven, v. 22
- D. Come follow me – be my disciple, v. 22
- E. The rich man’s response, “he became sad”, v. 23
- F. The rich man’s wealth was an obstacle, v. 24
- G. The rich man signed his death warrant, a living picture of, (cf Mk 8:36)
- H. Jesus’ comment, “how hard it is for the rich to enter”, v. 25

#4. INHERITING ETERNAL LIFE INVOLVES ABUNDANT BLESSINGS IN THIS LIFE, vv. 26-30

- A. Onlookers question, “Who then can be saved?”, v. 26
- B. Jesus’ response - salvation is possible only with God, v. 27
- C. Peter: “We have left all we had to follow you”, v. 28
- D. Jesus’ response following Jesus is costly v. 29
- E. Following Jesus is rewarded in this age 100 fold, v. 30 (cf. Mk 10:30)
- F. Following Jesus is rewarded in the next age, v. 30

NOTES:

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:18-30

A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"¹⁹ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good--except God alone."²⁰ You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'"²¹ "All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said.²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."²³ When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth.²⁴ Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!²⁵ Indeed, 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 Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?"²⁷ Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."²⁸ Peter said to him, "We have left all we had to follow you!"²⁹ "I tell you the truth," Jesus said to them, "no one who has left home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God³⁰ will fail to receive many times as much in this age and, in the age to come, eternal life."

Ecclesiastes 3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

Mark 10:17-18 As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good-- except God alone.

Matthew 19:16-17 Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"¹⁷ "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."

Matthew 6:24: No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

Mark 8:35-37: For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.³⁶ What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. What are some common views that nonbelievers have about life after death?
- #2. Read Mark 10:17-18. What conclusion(s) can you make about the way the man felt?
- #3. Read Matthew 19:16-17. What conclusion(s) can you make about the man's understanding of the necessity of good works to inherit eternal life?
- #4. Why did Jesus say, "No one is good except God alone?" (v. 19)
- #5. Regarding the commandments he said, "All these I have kept since I was a boy." What conclusion(s) do you draw from his response to Jesus' statement?
- #6. Why did Jesus tell him to sell everything and give it to the poor?

#7. What did Jesus mean by “you will have treasure in heaven?”

#8. What one thing would Jesus say you lack in your relationship with him?

#9. Read Mark 10:20-22: "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy." ²¹Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." ²²At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

A. What is your take on “²¹Jesus looked at him and loved him?”

B. What is your take on the man’s reaction in v. 22?

#10. Why did Jesus say it is so hard for the rich to enter the Kingdom of heaven? (vv. 24-25)

#11. What is your take on the reaction of the onlookers? (vv. 26-27)

#12. Explain Jesus’ response to Peter’s question. (vv. 28-30)

#13. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

- Stay home if you feel sick
- No food or drinks will be served
- We have prepackaged communion cups-covid friendly
- Hand sanitizers are throughout the building
- Let common sense prevail!

Invite a friend to join on zoom or come in person!

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER

Tuesday Bible Study @ 6:30 (click the zoom link)

Wednesday Prayer @6:30 (click the zoom link)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REOPENING HILLCREST CHURCH

The date has been set to begin meeting in person on Good Friday at 6:30pm and Easter Sunday at 10:30am. We will have a hybrid service so we will continue broadcasting on zoom. For those who attend in person we will be following all the covid protocols:

- Wear a mask
- Social distance