

“Chlidren, Rich Man, Camel, Cross”
Mark 10:13-34
8/11/24
Message 24

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “Chlidren, Rich Man, Camel, Cross”

- **Illustration - Good Enough for Heaven**

- **Over the years that I have been in ministry**

- I have had noticed a re-occurring theme with people
 - If you ask the average person on the street or sadly even in the Church
 - When you die WILL you go to heaven?
 - They will answer YES
 - Then you ask them WHY?!
 - In general...
 - I am a good person
 - My good deeds outweigh my bad deeds –
 - So I am confident God will let me in
 - After all I am nowhere as bad as...
 - The Religious Answer
 - Baptized
 - Attend Church every week

- Serve the Lord
- Give to the church
- Help feed the homeless
- **The REALITY**
 - There are going to o LOT of GOOD People in HELL
 - People who did a lot of GOOD on this planet
 - But NEVER Received Christ as Lord and Savior
 - There will be a whole of BAD People (BUT Forgiven) in Heaven
 - As you guys know – Salvation is ALL a work of GRACE
 - We come to Jesus confessing our sins and ask Him for the forgiveness He purchased on Calvary's Cross
 - In our texted today Jesus makes this TRUTH Very Clear

• **Quick Review**

- **Chapter 8 –**
 - Telling His Disciples He must SUFFER –
 - They would also suffer
 - Die to self...
- **Chapter 9**
 - Mt. of Transfiguration
 - After suffering the Glory of Jesus

- Demon Possessed Boy Healed
 - Disciples lacked faith attempted to ministry in their own strength
- Jesus Tells them
 - He must Suffer AGAIN
- The Disciples Arguing
 - Over who would be the greatest
- Beware Of Sectarianism
- Don't Offend a little one
- Deal with SIN SERIOUSLY
- Be a SALTY SAINT
- **Chapter 10**
 - God's Plan for Marriage
 - The Pharisees TEST Jesus vs. 1-2
 - The TRUTH About Marriage vs. 3-9
 - The TRAGEDY Of Divorce vs. 10-12

• **Now this morning we will look at 4 Main Points**

- Children vs. 13-16
- Rich Man vs. 17-22
- Camel vs. 23-31
- Cross vs. 32-34

Children vs. 13-16

- **First: They Brought Little Children To Him vs. 13-16**

- **1st Then They Brought Little Children v. 13-14a**

- **1st Context v. 13a**

Mark 10:13 (NKJV)

13 Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

- Children of the First Century
 - Were sometimes loved & in other cases they were exploited...
 - Depending on how they benefited the family.
 - Illustration
 - A papyrus letter was found (dated June 17, 1 BC) written from Hilarion to his expectant wife Alis, *“if it is a male child let it [live]; if it was female, cast it out.”*
 - Infanticide was practiced even back in Jesus time & in the early church.
 - So Children non-Christian culture may or may not have been seen as good!
 - Sadly - This is VERY MUCH the same problem today!
 - In Hebrew Culture
 - Children were seen to be a GIFT from the Lord

Psalm 127:3–5 (NKJV)

3 Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one’s youth.

*5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed,
But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.*

- It was a common practice for Jewish parents
 - To bring their little children to Great Rabbis for blessing.
- That is WHAT they are doing here
 - The Greek word BROUGHT: Prosphero
 - Suggests:
 - That they brought their children to Jesus for dedication.
- **2nd But The Disciple rebuked those who brought them v. 13b**

Mark 10:13 (NKJV)

13 Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

- They probably thought they were doing Him a favor
 - Protect His time and conserve His strength.
- BUT In other words...
 - They did not consider the children to be important!
 - Once again, they forgot what He had taught them (Mark 9:36)
- **3rd Jesus Saw it – v. 14a**

Mark 10:14 (NKJV)

14 But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them,
“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

- The Phrase – “GREATLY Displeased”
 - Is too tame!
 - Our Lord actually became Indignant
 - He openly rebuked His disciples for standing in the way.
 - Wiersbe; “Then He announced that the children were better kingdom examples than were the adults. We tell the children to behave like adults, but Jesus tells the adults to model themselves after the children!”

- **2nd Let The Little Children Come To Me vs. 14b-15**

- **1st Let the Little Children Come to Me v. 14b**

Mark 10:14 (NKJV)

14 But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

- We should never block the way – or fail to provide them a way to JESUS
 - We must do everything to bring children to Him
- Application x 2
 - **1st Bring your KIDS to Jesus**
 - Poll after Poll show the similar results
 - How important it is to bring our kids to Jesus
 - Survey – At What Age did you come to Christ

- 15.1% - Age 6 or Younger
- 32.1% - Age 7-11
- 36.8% - Age 12-19
- 11.3% - Age 20-29
- 4.7% - After Age 30

▪ HOW?!

- Glad you asked
- 1st Model Christ Likness – LOVE like Jesus
 - Yes godliness
 - BUT Humility
 - Be honest when you blow it
- 2nd PRAYER
 - NEVER, NEVER, stop praying for them
- 3rd God's Word
 - Read
 - Memorize
 - Instruct
- 4th Take them to Church –
 - Make it a priority

- Not an after thought
- Too many families in our culture –
 - Make church an after thought
 - We will go to church so long as nothing else comes up!
- 5th SPEND Time with them
 - LOVE is Spelled TIME
 - NOT just running from one event to another
 - BUT just sitting and talking with them
- **2nd Children Are a Priority at CCP**
 - So important that churches are a place for children
 - Sadly, some don't want children under 5 in the sanctuary
 - My heart
 - I want them running around (SAFE) at church
 - I want them to feel like this is their HOME
 - I want to see sticky hand prints all over the windows
- **2nd For of such is the kingdom of God v. 15**

Mark 10:15 (NKJV)

15 *Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."*

- Children are examples of how we must enter the kingdom
 - With a childlike faith - NOT with a childish faith!
 - We must come to God with a faith that trusts God
 - Just like a little child trusts his father – and leave all the problems up to daddy.
 - The Emphasis
 - Is not that children are humble and innocent,
 - Because sometimes they aren't.
 - But the fact that children will receive and don't feel they have to earn everything they get!
 - They don't refuse gifts out of self-sufficient pride.
 - Helpless Dependence.
 - Children of the kingdom must enter it helpless, ones for whom everything must be done.
 - As the hymn says,
 - Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;

foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

- **3rd He took them up in His arms v. 16**

Mark 10:16 (NKJV)

16 And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

- **Jesus simply yet powerfully blessed them.**
 - The ancient Greek verb is Emphatic
 - Literally meaning to fervently bless

Rich Man vs. 17-22

- **First: The Rich Mans Question vs. 17-18**

- **1st Good Teacher v. 17**

Mark 10:17 (NKJV)

17 Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?”

- **1st The Man**
 - This man is commonly known as the Rich Young Ruler
 - Because he is described as a
 - Ruler (Luke 18:18)
 - As Rich (Luke 18:23)
 - As Young (Matthew 19:22).
 - How he came
 - Came
 - Running

- Kneeled – gonupeteo –
 - Means: To fall on the knees, expressing reverence and honour;
- There seems to be sincerity in this man.
- He is willing to be humble as he runs and falls down at Jesus' feet in front of other people.
- Calls Jesus - Good Teacher
 - This was an impressive and perhaps surprising way to address Jesus.
 - Why?
 - "Good Teacher" was a title NEVER applied to other rabbis in Jesus' day
 - Because It implied being Without Sin and complete Goodness.
 - There is not one record in the entire Jewish Talmud of any Jew ever calling a Rabbi "good"
 - The Talmud taught there was only one who was good...and that's God
 - Bottom Line They would NEVER call any person good...
 - Only God IS GOOD
- **2nd His Question**
 - *What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?*

- Literally it says, “What having done, shall I inherit eternal life?”
- He started With the Assumption that
 - He hadn’t Missed Anything
 - With self-righteousness and religiosity that basically said, “I’ve done everything right!”
 - He’s thinking, “What possibly could I have missed?”
 - BUT His request really reveals his problem
 - His heart was resting solidly in his religious background and practice
- Application - Sadly this describes people in our world
 - And that’s one of the biggest errors of our culture...
 - That somehow because of our religious background or because of our religious practices...
 - That somehow guarantees that a person is going to go to heaven
 - They have a form of godliness...

2 Timothy 3:5 (NKJV)

5 *having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!*

Matthew 7:22 (NKJV)

22 *Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’*

- It is clear from the teaching of the Bible...

- That if anyone wants to go to heaven...THEY MUST FOLLOW JESUS CHRIST

- 2nd Why do you call Me good? v. 18

Mark 10:18 (NKJV)

18 So Jesus said to him, *“Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.*

- **Now a lot of cults and religious liberals**
 - Will use this verse to that deny the deity of Jesus
 - They’ll say that Jesus clearly said in this verse that He is not God
 - Jesus was NOT denying His deity.
 - Instead, He invited the young man to reflect upon it.
 - It is as if Jesus said,
 - “Do you really know what you are saying when you call Me good?”
- **What Jesus did say is a statement that strongly indicates His deity**
 - The whole point is:
 - “If ONLY God is good...
 - And you say that I’m GOOD...
 - Then I must be God...
 - And as God you must follow Me”

- **Second: Jesus’ Answer vs. 19-22**

○ **1st You know the commandments v. 19**

Mark 10:19 (NKJV)

19 *You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Do not defraud,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'*

▪ **Being a Jew - This man knew the commandments.**

- Jesus was careful to quote to him only those commandments from what is often called the second table of the law
- Addressing how we treat one another.

▪ **Notice in verse 20**

- Jesus only refers to the **LAST half of the Ten Commandments...**
 - That deals with man's relationship to man
- Why didn't Jesus mention the **FIRST part of the Ten Commandments**
 - Which deals with man's relationship to God
- Because that was his problem!
 - You see the first commandment says that we're to have no other God's except Him
 - That was this man's problem...**his god was money**
- You see he thought he had done everything that was needed
 - He had climbed to the top of the ladder of success...

- Only to find out it was leaning on the wrong building!

○ **2nd Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth v. 20**

Mark 10:20 (NKJV)

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

▪ **Question**

- Was he being honest when he that?
 - A Good Question
 - Is it possible to keep this section of the LAW?
 - Paul said

Philippians 3:6 (NKJV)

6 *concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.*

- So Maybe... on the outside he did perform well
- **BUT NOT when you take the Sermon on the Mount**
 - That the Lord's expectations of keeping the Law was more than just external
 - Jesus told us that we can break the Ten Commandments by the way we think...so in reality, this ruler has not kept the Law
 - So maybe we look good on the outside
 - BUT the HEART is Not looking so good
 - Example

- One could say I have NEVER committed adultery on the outside
- BUT Jesus says – if you look at a women and desired her – you have committed adultery
- **3rd Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him v. 21a**

Mark 10:21 (NKJV)

21 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 was filled with LOVING COMPASSION for this man**
 - Note a few things
 - 1st Some believe this man was MARK
 - There is really no proof of that –
 - But they believe that because of this statement – loved him – that intimate detail was added because it was to Mark
 - 2nd Jesus LOVES ALL SINNERS
 - He sees them as sheep without a shepherd
 - He sees them lost needing help
 - Application
 - Do we see them the same way
 - 3rd Love Shares the TRUTH
 - Well Real LOVE lets people know the TRUTH in LOVE

- 4th One thing you lack v. 21b

Mark 10:21 (NKJV)

21 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.”**

- **One Thing You Lack**

- Jesus put his finger on the issue when He mentions his wealth
 - Jesus is pointing out that this man's problem was MONEY was his god
 - Jesus is getting to the heart of the matter

- **Application x 2**

- **1st Some have used this lesson to let us know how evil money is**
 - Class warfare
 - How we must all sell everything and give to the poor
 - Is that really what He's saying? NOT AT ALL
 - He's dealing WITH this man's particular problem
 - PLEASE NOTE: There are many people who have money and wealth...but don't worship it
 - Jesus is Address this MAN issue
 - We can place anything where Jesus placed Money

- Pride
- Sex
- Power

- **2nd Real Love Address Man's greatest needs**

- Sadly, our culture says
 - If you love someone you accept them and don't attempt to change them
- Sadly, SO Many Churches today have adopted that attitude
 - They say that they LOVE people but they won't tell them the TRUTH
 - We have sought to be friendly with the world without telling them the truth
 - Paul dealt with this in Corinth
 - 1 Cor 4
- Jesus didn't compromise
 - This guy WANTED eternal life!
 - But Jesus didn't compromise – He looked at him and He loved him and said “sell it all, give it away and follow me”
- **5th But he was Sad v. 22**

Mark 10:22 (NKJV)

22 But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

- **1st When he heard this he became very sorrowful**
 - “Went away sorrowful”

- The Greek - “Surrounded by Sorrow”
- The guy goes away sad!
 - And again, this has a lot of relevance for us today
- **2nd The mistake in the modern church - They don’t want anyone to go away sad!**
 - In the truest since NOR do we
 - So those trusted with the truth of the Gospel don’t say anything that would cause them to walk away sad!
 - We can’t change the message just to make them happy
 - Yes - JESUS stands in total contradiction to that kind of ministry
 - Jesus...God incarnate...who loved this guy...put His finger on this man’s god
 - He said that he could never gain entrance into the Kingdom on the basis of his own righteousness / merit
 - He said that he needed to follow Jesus
 - And it says that he went away grieved.
 - Jesus loved him and let him walk away!
 - The truth in love!

Camel vs. 23-31

- **First: The Difficulty Of Riches vs. 23-27**

- **1st How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God... vs. 23-26**

Mark 10:23–26 (NKJV)

23 Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, *“How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!”*

24 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!”*

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 And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, *“Who then can be saved?”*

- **The disciples were Astonished at His words**

- Wealth = Blessings
 - They assumed that wealth was always a sign of God’s blessing and favor.
 - They thought that the rich were especially saved.
- We have a hard time seeing how riches could hinder us from the kingdom of God.
 - We tend to think that riches can only bring blessing and good.
 - That MAY NOT be the case

- **Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!**

- Riches present a difficulty
 - Because they tend to make us satisfied with this life instead of longing for the age to come.

- **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:**

- With man, salvation is like a camel going through the eye of a needle.
 - BUT With God, it is possible
- **1st What does this mean**
 - Now there are some who have said that the camel thru the eye of a needle thing is referring to a gate in Jerusalem
 - There is no historical evidence of any gate like that...and on top of that it doesn't make sense
 - Literal camel and literal needle
- **2nd Now what is Jesus saying here – 2 ideas:**
 - **1st It's Easy to Depend on Riches**
 - The simple obvious idea that there's a tremendous danger for someone with wealth to simply trust in their own riches rather than the Lord
 - **2nd It's impossible for a person who is trusting in their money to go to heaven.**
 - ONLY trust in Jesus bring salvation
- **2nd With God all things are possible v. 27**

Mark 10:27 (NKJV)

27 But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible."

- **BUT God**

- God's grace is sufficient to SAVE ALL

- Yes even the RICH
 - Examples
 - Zaccheus,
 - Joseph of Arimathea
 - Barnabas
 - Through history many more examples.
- Is there someone you look at and think – IMPOSSIBLE!?
- NOT for GOD

• **Second: Our reward and the solution to the problem of riches vs. 28-31**

- **1st See, we have left all and followed You v. 28**

Mark 10:28 (NKJV)

28 Then Peter began to say to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You.”

- The disciples had left all to follow Jesus
 - What will be their reward?
 - This question seems typical of Peter.

- **2nd There is no one who has left house or brothers... who shall not receive a hundredfold vs. 29-31**

Mark 10:29–31 (NKJV)

29 So Jesus answered and said, “*Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s,*

30 *who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life.*

31 *But many who are first will be last, and the last first."*

- What Jesus is saying
 - Matthew 10
 - There may be family division because of the Gospel
- God won't be indebted to anyone
 - YOU CAN'T OUT GIVE GOD

Cross vs. 32-34

• First: Jesus Announces Again His Suffering that Awaits Him vs. 32-34

- **1st They were amazed... they were afraid v. 32**

Mark 10:32 (NKJV)

32 *Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him:*

- **As they followed they were afraid:**
 - At the same time, the disciples are to be commended for continuing to follow Jesus.
 - It is true they were afraid, but it is also true that they followed.

- **2nd They will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles vs. 33-34**

Mark 10:33–34 (NKJV)

33 *"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;*

34 *and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him.
And the third day He will rise again."*

- **The OT did foretell the suffering and death of the Messiah...**

- Everything Jesus did fulfilled the Scriptures...He said so

Psalm 22:7–8 (NKJV)

7 *All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,*

8 *"He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"*

Isaiah 53:7 (NKJV)

7 *He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.*

Psalm 22:14–16 (NKJV)

14 *I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.*

15 *My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.*

16 *For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;*

- **God's purpose for His Son**

- And the Son's purpose in coming

Matthew 27:29–31 (NKJV)

29 *When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"*

30 *Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head.*

31 *And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.*

- **They will scourge Him**

- The Romans whipped their prisoners with a device called a “flagrum”. It was a handle with long leather straps of various lengths attached. Imbedded in the straps were jagged pieces of bone and lead.

- **Killed Him**

- He would be crucified.
- Crucifixion was invented by the Persians, used by the Greeks, and perfected by the Romans.
- Crucifixion was designed to be both humiliating and extremely painful.

- **He endured these things to pay for our sin**

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)

21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- **The third day He will rise again**

- VICTORY

Closing

- ABC