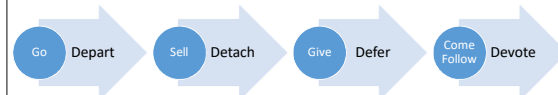


## **"WHAT THEN WILL THERE BE FOR US?"**

Matthew 19:23-30

Context:  
After the young man was told in order to be complete ...



The young man's response? *"He went away grieved; for he ... owned much property"*

Jesus' reaction?  
*"Jesus, looking at him with sadness ..."*  
(Luke 18:24; ESV)

### ***"It is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven"***

*"It is hard* ("with difficulty"; Thayer) *to enter the kingdom of heaven"* –

**For who?**

"A rich man" – Matthew 19:23

"Those who are wealthy" – Mark 10:23 and Luke 18:24

Those **"abounding in material resources"** (Thayer).

### ***"It is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven"***

Paul's exhortations to those "abounding in material resources":

1 Timothy 6:10, *"the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith."* Hebrews 13:5; Proverbs 23:4-5

1 Timothy 6:17-18, *"instruct those who are rich ... not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God ... to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share"*

### ***"It is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven"***

How hard?

Jesus said in Matthew 19:24, *"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."*

### ***"It is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven"***

A camel through the eye of a needle –

- Some suggest this refers to a small gate into Jerusalem.
- Or, is it a literal eye of a sewing needle?
  - How did the disciples interpret Jesus statement? As something impossible from a human perspective; *"Then who can be saved?"* (verse 26)
- Jesus' use of hyperbole. Matthew 7:3-5; 23:24

### **"Then who can be saved?"**

The disciples were *"very astonished."*  
 Contradicted common understanding that blessings indicated God's approval.  
 Scholars said of these words, "to be so amazed as to be practically overwhelmed"  
 They understood what Jesus said!  
 An excellent question! Psalms 15:1; 24:3

### **"With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible"**

No one can keep God's law perfectly.  
 Romans 3:23; Galatians 5:3.  
 No one can pay the price! Psalms 49:7-8  
 With God all things are possible! Job 42:2;  
 Zechariah 8:6-8

### **This is when the disciples ask: "What then will there be for us?"**

- As they think of what Jesus has just declared, they think of what they've sacrificed.
- "Behold, we have left everything and followed you."**
- Luke 5:9-11; 27-28

### **Jesus' reply to "what then will there be for us?"**

- Is it wrong to ask that question? We need to be clear why we have chosen to serve the Lord! 1 Peter 3:15
- We must be looking to the reward.  
 Hebrews 11:26; 10:35-36; Luke 6:23;  
 Psalms 58:11
- Are we clear what we're looking for?  
 Romans 8:18; Ephesians 1:18-19

### **Jesus' reply to "what then will there be for us?"**

Specifically to Jesus' chosen 12 apostles He promised:

- "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."*  
 (Matthew 19:28)
- What was Jesus referring to?

### **Jesus' reply to "what then will there be for us?"**

- What is the **"regeneration"** that Jesus referred to?
- Key is when Jesus said this was to happen.
- "When the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne."**
- When did that happen?

### Jesus' reply to "what then will there be for us?"

- When Jesus ascended to the right hand of the throne of God. Luke 1:32-33; Acts 2:30-33; Ephesians 1:19-23.
- In connection with the establishment of the kingdom. Luke 22:28-30
- The kingdom now exists (Acts 2:41; Colossians 1:13)

### Jesus' reply to "what then will there be for us?"

The word "**regeneration**" means

- "(Spiritual) rebirth (the state or the act) ... (figuratively) spiritual renovation; specifically Messianic restoration" (Vine). Thayer, "new birth, reproduction, renewal, recreation." (Titus 3:5)

### Jesus' reply to "what then will there be for us?"

- "... **In the regeneration** ..." then is at the time in which Jesus would sit on His glorious throne.
- Jesus upon His throne = When souls would be regenerated and reborn. (John 3:3ff)

### Jesus' reply to "what then will there be for us?"

The word for "**judging**" – what the apostles would be doing on these 12 thrones – means:

- "approve, esteem ... **determine, resolve or decree** ... to pronounce an opinion concerning right and wrong" (Thayer)

### Jesus' reply to "what then will there be for us?"

- The regeneration coincides with the reign of the apostles which began in Acts 2:1 on the day of Pentecost when they began to "**determine, resolve (and) decree**" what one needed to do to be forgiven and enter the kingdom.
- The church was built upon: "**the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone.**" (Ephesians 2:20)

### What then will there be for "everyone"?

- Having answered the question specifically to the apostles of "what's in it for [them]," Jesus now turns to "**everyone**" who has made sacrifices in regards to:
  - Their relationships** ("**brothers or sisters** ...") or
  - Things or professions** ("**farms**"); or anything else;
- Have we counted the cost?** Luke 14:26-28

### ***What then will there be for "everyone"?***

- Who sacrifices in order to **follow Jesus "for His names sake."**
- Think of the rich man earlier in this chapter who would not leave any of his treasured possessions (things or family).
  - The command to "*follow Me*" would certainly mean leaving family also.
- Matthew 10:34-38; Matthew 19:1-9; 1 Corinthians 7

### ***What then will there be for "everyone"?***

- Jesus' promise is that those who do sacrifice to follow Him would be blessed with:
- "**Many times as much**"; Luke adds "**at this time and in the age to come**" (Luke 18:30)
  - Not a promise of the material blessings He had just called upon the rich young ruler to sell and give.
  - The "**many times as much**" is in reference to that which we are called upon to leave behind. (Romans 12:10; 1 Timothy 5:1-2; Matthew 12:47-50; Proverbs 18:24)

### ***What then will there be for "everyone"?***

- Everyone who is faithful, obedient and sacrifices for the cause of Christ?
- Beyond this life in "**the age to come**" (Luke 18:30)?
- Inheriting "**eternal life.**"
  - Without end, never to cease. (Thayer)
- 1 Timothy 6:12; 1 John 5:13; John 4:14; 6:27; 1 Peter 1:4

### ***What then will there be for "everyone"?***

- Did Jesus respond that what there will then be for us is a life without problems and persecutions? Matthew 5:10-12; John 15:20

### ***What then will there be for "everyone"?***

- Everyone who like the rich young man who went away sad because his only treasure was in this life?
- That's it!
- There's no other reward. You've received it in full. Matthew 6:2, 5, 16.
- What awaits then eternally is punishment. Matthew 25:46