

Lesson 18: Bless The Children

Journey to Jerusalem (Final Judean Ministry)

Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17

April 6, 2022

Children – Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16;
Luke 18:15-17

Parents Bring Their Children:

The verb tense suggest the parents' persistence ("kept on bringing") – cf. Mark 10:13

- Mark uses a word (*paidia*) that can mean children up to twelve, while Luke uses a word (*brephos*) that indicates infants. Luke 18:15
- Mark later says Jesus "took them in His arms," suggestive of infants. cf. Mark 10:15-16
- The parents desperately wanted Jesus to touch and pray for their babies. WHY?

Children- Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16;
Luke 18:15-17

Disciples Rebuke The Parents. Mark 10:13

Jesus Rebukes His Disciples. Mark 10:14

- The infants were to be allowed, "for of such is the kingdom of God"
- In fact, one must receive the kingdom "as a little child" to enter it. Mark 10:15
- Jesus was angry with His disciples, but He used the opportunity to teach them.

Children- Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16;
Luke 18:15-17

Jesus Blesses The Infants ...

- He first took them up into His arms, laid His hands on them. Mark 10:16
- He then blessed them, likely in the form of praying for them. Matthew 19:13
- While busy in His ministry, Jesus took time to pray for these babies.

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Luke 18:15-17

Receiving The Kingdom.

- Jesus used the children to teach qualities necessary to enter the kingdom of God
- Childlike virtues like trustful simplicity, unassuming humility. cf. Psalms 131:1-2
- To receive the kingdom, we must be poor in spirit, meek. cf. Matthew 5:3,5; Matthew 18:3-4

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Luke 18:15-17

Receiving The Children.

- Jesus demonstrates His love for children, willingness to take time for them.
- His disciples should show similar concern for little children.
- Are we willing to make time for children? Be good role models? cf. Matthew 18:6,10

Children- Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16;
Luke 18:15-17

Praying For The Children.

- All children need our prayers, just as the parents requested for their infants.
- Even though infants may not be in a state of sin, their time will come soon enough.
- Especially in this day and age, where children are bombarded with so much evil.
- **Mark 10:14**, *“But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God.”*

Lesson 18: The Rich Young Ruler

Journey to Jerusalem
(Final Judean Ministry)
Matthew 19:16-22

April 6, 2022

The Rich Young Ruler

1. Who was he?
2. His hopeful question.
3. Jesus' unexpected reply.
4. His sad departure.

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The Rich Young Ruler

1. Who this young man was.

From the world's point of view:

- He was young – *“the young man.”* (Matthew 19:20, 22)
- He was a ruler – *“a certain ruler”* (Luke 18:18)
- He had wealth. (*“great possessions”* – Matthew 19:22) (*“he was very rich”* – Luke 18:23) However, he was *“not rich toward God.”* (Luke 12:21; cf. Matthew 6:19)

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The Rich Young Ruler

1. Who this young man was.

From heaven's viewpoint:

- He was an earnest man, (He came *“running”* to Jesus – Mark 10:17)
- He was a humble man. (He came *“kneeling”* – Mark 10:17)
- He was a reverent man. (He addressed Jesus as *“Good Master”* (KJV) – Matthew 19:16)
- He was an honorable man. (He said, *“All these things have I kept from my youth up.”* (Mark 10:20)

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“What lack I yet?” NOT ENOUGH ...

- Just do something ... In a way. Proverbs 16:25; Jeremiah 10:23; Matthew 7:13-14; Matthew 7:21, 22ff
- Religious. Galatians 1:13-14; Philippians 3:3ff; Acts 8:26-39
- Honest. Acts 23:1; Acts 22:16
- Morality alone is not sufficient in God's sight. (John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 10:1-6, 48)
- Believer. John 1:11-12; 12:42; James 2:14-26
- Almost Persuaded. Acts 26:27-29
- Ignorant. Acts 17:30-31; Acts 3:17; 2:23-46; Romans 10:3; John 8:32

The Rich Young Ruler

2. The young man's hopeful question.

Two questions – (Matthew 19:16, 20)

1) *“What good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”*

- Micah 6:7-8, *“Wherewith shall I come before Jehovah, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? will Jehovah be pleased with thousands of rams, (or) with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my first-born for my transgression, the fruit of my body, for the sin of my soul? He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth Jehovah require of thee, but to do justly, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with thy God?”*

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“What lack I yet?” (cf. John 17:3)

The Rich Young Ruler

3. Jesus' unexpected reply. (Matthew 19:21)

Jesus made a twofold demand of him:

- *“If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven”* (KJV) (cf. 1 John 5:21)
- *“And come and follow me.”* (cf. Matthew 16:24)

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4. The young man's sad departure.

(Matthew 19:22)

- *“His countenance fell at the saying ...”* (Mark 10:22)
- *“He went away sorrowful; for he was one that had great possessions.”*
- Not because the Master had been unkind to him.
- He tried to hold on to the treasures of both worlds. (Matthew 6:24; cf. Matthew 16:26; 1 Timothy 6:9ff, 17ff; Mark 4:19)

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Conclusion:

- Note the words of Jesus to His disciples immediately following this incident. (Matthew 19:23-24)
- Then the disciples *“were astonished exceedingly, saying, Who then can be saved?”* (Matthew 19:25)
- Anyone can who will. (John 6:37; Revelation 22:17)

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