JESUS & MONEY

The Story of Scripture, part 26

Mark 10:17 - 31, ESV

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MARK 10:17 - 31

And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother." And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will 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. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

1. JESUS' CALL TO SALVATION DEMANDS RADICAL SURRENDER.

ROMANS 10:9

... if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

111KF 9-23

... If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

LUKE 14:33

... any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

2. JESUS' CALL TO SALVATION INVOLVES RADICAL COMMANDS.



3. JESUS CALLS US TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY TO THE POOR BECAUSE HE LOVES US.

MARK 10:21

And Jesus, looking at him, loved him ...

LUKE 12:33A

Sell your possessions, and give to the needy.

LUKE 12:32

Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

4. THE GOSPEL, NOT GUILT, IS THE PRIMARY REASON WHY WE GIVE SACRIFICIALLY TO THE POOR.

MARK 10:23

How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!

5. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND OUR USE OF MONEY AND POSSESSIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF REDEMPTIVE HISTORY.

DEUTERONOMY 28:1 - 6

And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.



6. WE DESPERATELY NEED TO REALIZE THE DECEPTIVE, DANGEROUS, DEADLY NATURE OF DESIRE FOR MONEY AND POSSESSIONS.

1 TIMOTHY 6:6 - 10

... godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

- 7. JESUS DOESN'T WANT TO TAKE AWAY OUR PLEASURE; HE WANTS TO SATISFY US WITH HIS TREASURE.
- 8. JESUS DESIRES TO FREE US FROM BONDAGE TO OURSELVES AND OUR STUFF.
- 9. THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP IS GREAT, BUT THE COST OF NON-DIS-CIPLESHIP IS FAR GREATER.

MARK 10:29 - 30

Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will 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.

10. OUR LIVES WILL COUNT ON EARTH ONLY WHEN OUR EYES ARE FIXED ON HEAVEN.

