

The Danger of Riches

Mathew 19:23–26

(Mk 10:23-27; Lk 18:24-27)

1. The fact:

Wealth pulls a person from the kingdom

- a. Creates the big “I,” vv. 16, 20
- b. Makes one hoard, v. 21
- c. Attaches to the world, v. 22

**2. The great difficulty illustrated:
*It is easier for a camel...***

**3. The shock:
*Is not wealth a blessing of God?***

4. The only hope

- a. The rich must turn away from trusting in men and wealth
- b. The rich must turn to God, trust Him and His power

23 Then

Jesus said to his disciples,
“I tell you the truth,
it is hard for a rich man
to enter the kingdom of heaven.

24 Again I tell you,
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.”

25 When the disciples heard this,
they were greatly astonished and asked,
“Who then can be saved?”

26 Jesus looked at them
and said,
“With man
this is impossible,
but with God
all things are possible.”

The Reward for Believers

Mathew 19:27–30

1. *The two essentials for reward*

- a. Must give up all for Christ:
Put Him first
- b. Must follow Christ

2. *The apostles' reward: Will reign and rule with Christ*

- a. When: In the new age
when God's kingdom
is established on earth
- b. Purpose: To judge, rule, govern
the twelve tribes of Israel

3. *The believer's reward: Will receive great benefits*

- a. The reason:
Left all-supreme allegiance
- b. The present reward:
A hundred times as much
- c. The future reward:
Eternal life

4. *The believer's judgment: A shocking surprise — execution of perfect justice*

27 Peter answered him,
“We have left everything to follow you!
What then will there be for us?”

28 Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you,
at the renewal of all things,
when the Son of Man
sits on his glorious throne,
you who have followed me
will also sit on twelve thrones,
judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

29 And everyone who has left houses
or brothers or sisters or father or mother
or wife or children or fields for my sake
will receive a hundred times as much
and will inherit eternal life.

30 But many who are first will be last,
and many who are last will be first.