

The Rich Young Ruler

TEXT: Matt. 19:16-22

INTRODUCTION:

- A. A MOST TRAGIC YOUNG MAN.
 1. Appears full of hope – leaves filled with sorrow .
 2. **Wanted to serve the Lord.**
 3. Young, having all a man might want, **didn't have what was most important.**
- B. LET'S STUDY FURTHER.

I. WHO WAS HE?

- A. FROM **THE WORLD'S POINT OF VIEW**. THE IDEAL!
 1. Young, on the brink of life – energy, zeal, idealism – ability to commit themselves to a cause, if they will(**Ecc. 12:1**).
 2. He was a ruler(**Luke 18:18**). Position, Power, Prestige.
 3. He was wealthy ... but not toward God(**Luke 12:21**).
- B. FROM HEAVEN'S POINT OF VIEW.
 1. He was **earnest** in his quest – came running(**Mark 10:17**).
 2. A certain amount of **humility** – he knelt(**Mark 10:17**).
 3. **He knew** Jesus had the answers – didn't dispute(**Heb. 1:1-2**).
- C. HE REALIZES **SOMETHING IS MISSING**.
 1. A model of goodness – moral purity, and more than a passing interest.
 2. Kept the law – Wanted to do more than just get by(**Matt. 5:47**).
 3. Should have kept his mouth shut.
 4. **What about me?** ARE WE ANXIOUS TO SERVE?
- D. "WHAT LACK I YET?"

II. NOTICE THE REPLY OF JESUS(Matt. 19:21).

- A. SELL OUT AND GIVE TO THE POOR.
 1. Not asked of anyone else.
 2. Levi did it(**Luke 5:27-28**). And the rest(**Matt. 19:27**).
- B. WHAT JESUS ASKED REQUIRED COMMITMENT.
 1. Priorities(**Matt. 6:19-21**). What is important?
 2. Crucifixion of self(**Luke 9:23; Gal. 2:20** è **1 Pet. 4:1-2**).
 3. Commitment to his cause(**1 Cor. 9:23**).
 4. **2 Tim. 4:12.**
- C. IS OUR EYE SINGLE?(**Matt. 6:22-24**).
 1. Values è **vs. 19-21.**
 2. Affections è **vs. 21-24.**
 3. Priorities è **vs. 24-33.**

CONCLUSION:

- A. THE RICH YOUNG RULER COULD DO A LOT FOR THE CAUSE.
- B. JESUS TURNED HIM AWAY? WHY?
- C. WOULD A LACK OF COMMITMENT CAUSE HIM TO TURN ME AWAY?