

# MATTHEW 19 vs 16

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**Matthew was an eyewitness to Jesus.** he wrote about when the disciples wrongly tried to hinder mothers bringing their little ones to Jesus, and Jesus went ballistic. After that event Jesus left the area to minister in another region. And we read:

**16 And, behold / pay attention, one came to Him and said, Good Master, what good thing can I do, that I inherit eternal life? / eternal zoe; the life of God...**

**17 And He said to him, Why do you ask Me about what is good? There is none good but One: that is God! /** Jesus wanted to establish a starting point of agreement with this one who came with the question. Did this guy know who he was talking to?

**If you desire to enter into life / into zoe... the life of God,**

**Keep the instructions** / 10 commands given to Moses, and no more; guard to protect the instructions. Moses said, write them on your hands as you labor and between your eyes (in your mind); on your doors as you come and go and speak about them to your children and as you walk along the way – **Deut. 6.** Jesus is talking to this guy about familiar truths that he should have known since childhood.

**18 He said which one? /** probably while reaching for his notepad,

**Jesus said /** sizing this one up... you know, He sounds like a teenager... or one right out of college... 'cuz they usually know so much. It's sort of funny watch his response. Jesus says -- and He has got to have a poker face! Not to laugh...

Kid...

**Do not murder /** and you can almost hear people in the crowd whispering... even in the church crowd now days, trying to second guess the Lord as He deals with His own. And on-lookers are wondering, even muttering: Oh yeah, I can tell this kid must be some homicidal maniac, some violent serial-killer?! 'cuz Jesus started with murder! But Jesus is the Good Pastor, do you really think Jesus thought this guy was a murderer?

Jesus continues...

**Do not adulterate /** do not fornicate; oh!... so maybe he's some out-of-control, over-sexed pervert! Yep! That's gotta be it; yet the kid has not even blinked, nor registered a response to the Teacher,

And Jesus continues...

**Do not steal /** Hmm?! Haven't done that... finally the Teacher sees, a light is turned on!



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So Jesus continues...

**Do not bear false witness** / do not falsely blame, hmm?! Oops! Did that one register with the kid? You know that deer-in-the-headlights reaction? That flushed, reddened face of guilty as charged?!

**<sup>19</sup> Honor father and mother:**

**and,**

**Love your neighbor as yourself** / the way we pay attention, and take concern for our self? Do that for the neighbor. And it's as if Jesus deliberately left out the part of the law on coveting – that insatiable desire for endless things, gone wild!

**<sup>20</sup> The young man said to Him, All these...** / ALL I have kept but not really guarded in love and concern for God and His law; since his willowy response just wasn't true. But as if he kept it being chained and restrained. And he asks Jesus:

**ALL... I have kept yet, what do I lack?**

**<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to him** / to this very confident, superficial thinking kid.... Jesus treats us individually,

**If you will become perfect** / Jesus didn't lower the standard for life eternal; it is still for those... made in the image of God; no warts, no blemishes; nothing less than perfection like our Father in heaven,

**if you will become perfect,**

**Go... sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven: and come and follow Me** / join Me... in the way I'm going; and Jesus was going to the cross.

**<sup>22</sup> But when the young man heard this** / and quite possibly even glancing around at the rag-tag crowd...

**he went away sorrowful** / he was grieved!

**for he had great possessions** / or, as some have wondered... did the possessions have him?!

**<sup>23</sup> Then Jesus said to His disciples, Truly** / AMEN! What I tell you is for certain...

**I say, it is hard for the rich to enter the kingdom of heaven** / it is difficult for them to enter, but not impossible. Zacharias... and many others figured it out.

**<sup>24</sup> And again I say, It is easier for a camel hair** / which is coarse and bulky... and rough edged... **to go through the eye of a needle, than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God.**

**<sup>25</sup> When the disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed** / they were baffled!

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saying, **Who then can be saved?** / and don't you wonder why Matthew recorded this gospel story for us; he was one of those baffled disciples... selected to write this first book of the whole New Testament, Matthew was a rich man; and without a doubt, great is his reward in heaven.

<sup>26</sup> **But Jesus beheld them** / He paid attention to each of them with their confused expressions. He watches them,

**and Jesus said to them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.**

Who can be saved? No one... without GOD's help!

Peter along with the other disciples, has just watched the Lord interact with this rich young kid... who was invited to join them also. Instead, he went away greatly sadden by what he heard. And we read...

<sup>27</sup> **Then Peter answered and said to Him;** / so, having observed all this... Peter speaks up... and maybe is trying to elbow his way into the conversation... and is he questioning Jesus' sense of fairness?

Peter says...



**Behold** / pay attention Lord! **we have forsaken all** / and by **ALL**, uh?! Are we to understand they left behind their stinking fishing boats? They've given up ALL that?! Wow! And Peter's talking to who? Oh yeah... the Lord of glory!

**we have forsaken all, and joined You;**

**so, what will we have?** / Peter, more times than not, seems to be a mindless, self-absorbed... idiot... wanting to know he was being treated fairly. And I recognize that personality. It reminds me a lot about me! I think we went to the same school.

<sup>28</sup> **And Jesus said to them** / Oh! I was wondering who was following Me! I was getting a little nervous. Thank you Peter, for pointing all that out! NO!

**Jesus said to them, Truly / AMEN! I say to each of you,**

**That all of you who joined Me, in the regeneration** / at the time when ALL creation is made new. And Jesus is talking about the time... after sins great flushing...

**when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, all of you will sit on twelve thrones** / Huh?! What?! Can't you see their jaws dropped, speechless, we're gonna what? For leaving stinking what?!

And Jesus like an 18-wheeler truck driver just keeps barreling through...with horns blowing: BWah! BWah!

**judging the twelve tribes of Israel.** / What's He talking about?

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**29 And everyone who has forsaken brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, or houses on account of My name / for representing Me! Jesus knows in all generations... many will faithfully follow Him.**

**and will receive a hundredfold /** God our Father... is so different than us... He's not cheap like us! And Jesus is letting His disciples know those who follow will be generously rewarded. Greatly blessed.

**and will inherit everlasting life /** will receive eternal zoe; the life of God.

**30 But the last will be first; and the first... last.**

And with these words, Jesus says No need to elbow your way to the front, because the front is at the back! He says, Join Me in the way! In other words, line up! And let's keep going! Let us advance! After all, He was going to resurrection, but first to the cross, and to the grave.

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