

The Gospel of the King

The Reward of Christ

Mark 10:23-31 (ESV)

The backdrop - "The Great Refusal"

²¹ 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."

²² Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. (v. 21-22)

Weighing the _____ v. the _____, he chose the former.

Jesus was not calling for _____ ...

Nor for _____ ...

He was calling him/us to abandon _____ that is not God!

He went away "_____", desiring both worlds. Imagine what he'll experience in _____.

Jesus' 'amazing' words:

"How difficult it will be for those who have wealth 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." (v. 23, 24)

Not merely _____, but _____ ...

Why?

It's not because _____ carries its own damning _____. _____ was the wealthiest man of his era and he is in God's Kingdom.

It's because – in the case of this rich young man, and so many like him – wealth (and the _____ of wealth) causes so many to be _____ by the stuff of this world to the point where Heaven _____.

We grow to _____ what we chase and _____ what we can hold and _____ what the world values until the perceived worth of _____ slips away.

The inability of man and the overwhelming grace of God:

"With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." (v. 27)

I am not _____, but he is _____.

I don't _____ it, but he _____ it.

My _____ desires other things, but He can _____ it.

Peter's response and the value of Christ:

Peter: "See, we have left everything and followed you." (v. 28)

Jesus: I'm _____ it.

"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." (v. 29-30)

I'm worth it _____.

I'm worth it _____.

A final warning:

"But many who are first will be last, and the last first." (v. 31)