Jesus Let Him Walk Away

Rick Liggin · Mark 10:17–23

INTRODUCTION

- When the days were approaching for his ascension, he was determined to go to Jerusalem.
- Jesus would not be deterred from accomplishing his mission to go to Jerusalem and to die for the sins of the world.
- It's almost as if people were sensing that something ominous is in the air, and that eternal salvation somehow is on the line here.

1 There Is No Bare Minimum

Matthew 19:16; 1 Corinthians 15:58

- Teacher, what good thing shall I do to obtain eternal life?
- We often seem to think that eternal life is something that can be reduced to some one good thing.
- The bare minimum that you and I have to do in order to serve the Lord is we have to excel still more.
- This get-by attitude that sometimes we have as human beings, is at best spiritually dangerous, and it is potentially spiritually deadly.

2 One Thing You Lack

Matthew 19:17–20; Mark 10:21

- I've kept all these things for my youth up. What am I still lacking?
- Jesus looked at this young man and he loved him.
- Those five things ultimately really represented one thing. And that one thing was that he needed to change his allegiance and put Jesus first.
- The one thing that all lack who miss out on eternal life is that absolute, unequivocal devotion to Jesus Christ.

3 He Absolutely Must Have the Top Spot

Luke 14:26; Luke 14:27; Luke 14:33

- If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.
- The relationship and the devotion that we have to him has got to far supersede every other devotion in life.
- Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.
- If you want to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, you have to die to yourself.
- You cannot be a disciple of Jesus Christ unless your stuff stops being your stuff.

4 Teaching Them to Observe All Things

Colossians 1:18

- What has to be absolutely first is the reign and rule of God in my life.
- You make a disciple by teaching him to observe all things that Christ commanded.
- Disciples are people who have bought into the idea that I am from now on going to observe everything that Jesus said.
- I have to keep calling myself back to my original commitment. Which was to observe everything he commanded.

5 Jesus Let Him Walk Away

Mark 10:22–23; Luke 5:11; Luke 5:27–28

- This text makes it clear that this requirement is non-negotiable.
- But at these words, he was saddened and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.
- Jesus did not run after this young man to negotiate, to renegotiate the terms.
- What we can't do is lower the standard to somehow make it easier on someone who's struggling.

6 This Jesus Will Be Our Judge

- The Jesus who let this young ruler walk away is the very Jesus who is going to be our judge one day.
- He has fixed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness through a man whom he has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising him from the dead.

THE CHALLENGE

When you got baptized all those years ago, did you also understand that you were buying in to a commitment to observe everything that Christ taught? And did you make that kind of a commitment to him?

MY NOTES