

“Why The Rich Young Ruler Was Lost”

Lesson Text: **Matthew 19:16-22.** (See Also **Mark 10:17-22; Luke 18:18-23**).

I. He Was Lost, Even Though He Had A Good Background.

- Possibly of Noble Birth And Inherited His Position.
- He Had: **1.** Resources. **2.** A Good Education. **3.** A Position Of Authority.
4. Quite Possibly Parents Who Taught Him The Scriptures.
- He Didn't Have To Struggle With Poverty, Low Social Standing, Or Insignificance.
- Many Of Jesus' Disciples Were Not As Privileged In Their Backgrounds— But Overcame Their Backgrounds To Follow Jesus— Zacchaeus (**Luke 19:5-10**), Mary (**Luke 7:44-48**).
- A Bad Background In Life Can Be Overcome- **2 Chronicles 28:22—29:2.**

II. He Was Lost, Even Though He Asked The Most Important Question.

- **Matthew 19:16-** *“Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”*
- He Wanted To Know- **Mark 10:17**, Asked The Right Question, & Got The Right Answer- **vs. 18.**
- **1.** Many Never Ask This Vital Question. Too Busy With Other Things...
- **2.** Many Today Get The Wrong Answer.... Sinner's Prayer, Faith Alone, Grace Alone....
- **3.** Some May Even Have The Right Answer Today, But Fail To Act On That Knowledge.

III. He Was Lost, Even Though He Was Morally Better Than Most.

- **Matthew 19:18-20**, He Kept The Commandments, And Was A Moral Person Because Of It.
- He Was Not A Murderer, An Adulterer, A Thief.... **Deut. 4:5-8.**
- But Morality Alone Is Not Enough- **Acts 10:1-2.**

IV. He Was Lost, Even Though He Was Very Religious.

- **Matthew 19:18-20**, One Does Not Observe The Law Without Being Religious.
- Most People Today Who Go To Church Are Religious, But Being Religious Is Not Enough.
- **Acts 17:22-23; Romans 10:1-3.**

V. He Was Lost, Even Though Jesus Loved Him.

- **Mark 10:21.** Why Does Mark's Account Say This?
- Jesus' Love Does Not Guarantee Acceptance- **John 3:16; Revelation 3:16-19.**
- We Must Return Our Love To Jesus- **John 14:21; Hebrews 5:9.**

VI. He Was Lost, Even Though He Had A Tender Heart.

- **Matthew 19:22**, He Showed Sorrow Concerning The Words Of Jesus; Conviction.
- He Did Not Walk Away Mocking Or Scoffing At Jesus, But Sadness For The Realization...
- Not Everyone Who Is Convicted In Their Heart Obeys- **Acts 2:37— Acts 7:54.**

VII. He Was Lost, Because He Trusted In His Riches.

- How Do We Know? **Matthew 19:23-26.**
- Because He Trusted In His Riches, He Considered It Too Much To Give Up.
- What Jesus Asked Him To Do Showed Him His Real Problem— Materialism.
 - Many Today Want All This World Has To Offer And Eternal Life- **1 John 2:15.**
 - Trusting In Riches Puts Us In A Conflict Of Interest- **Matthew 6:19-21; vs. 24.**