

THE RICH YOUNG RULER MEETING THE MESSIAH

Luke 18:18-30

I. WHO WAS HE?

Unlike many others whom we read about encountering the Lord, this man remains unnamed. All we know is already in the title! However, various accounts must be compared to learn all these facts.

A. **Luke 18:18; 1st Corinthians 1:26**

Only Luke informs us he was a ruler, but few among the nobility will gain salvation.

B. **Matthew 19:22; 2nd Timothy 2:22**

Matthew alone records that he was young. There are temptations which are especially aggressive toward youth.

C. **Mark 10:22; Matthew 19:22; Luke 18:23**

He was rich according to all three accounts. That becomes the focus of much of their interaction.

II. "WHY DO YOU CALL ME GOOD?"

A. **Mark 10:17-18**

Jesus challenged this man to consider the full weight of what he was saying.

B. **Matthew 12:34-35**

It is possible for a man to be good, but whatever is good in man comes from the Lord.

C. **Psalms 34:8; 106:1**

God is good because He is the source of good.

D. **Colossians 2:9**

Jesus is good because He is God!

1. **Matthew 7:21-23**

He will judge the souls of men, which is a divine prerogative.

2. **Matthew 9:6**

He has power to forgive sins, also a divine prerogative.

3. **Matthew 14:33**

He receives worship, another divine prerogative.

III. **“WHAT SHALL I DO THAT I MAY INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE?”**

A. **Mark 10:17, 19-20**

This may seem an honorable inquiry unless it was a set-up to shine his ego.

B. **Psalms 119:93, 9-11**

Life has always been available in the precepts of Jehovah, which is why His word deserves to be treasured in the heart from youth onward. That this young man knew the commandments and was keeping them is more than can be said for many.

C. **1st John 2:3-6**

There is no just claim of knowing God without knowing and keeping His commands.

IV. **“JESUS, LOOKING AT HIM, LOVED HIM”**

A. **Mark 10:21**

It was with tender love that Jesus told this young man the hard part.

B. **Revelation 3:19; Proverbs 3:12; 13:24**

Love is the motive behind correction.

V. **“ONE THING YOU LACK”**

A. **Mark 10:21-31**

Jesus did not tell anyone else He encountered to part with all their worldly belongings. He certainly didn't preach that to the multitudes. He said it only

to this person because his wealth was the one thing he was unwilling to part with.

B. Proverbs 30:8

Poverty is not a condition that makes those experiencing it more righteous.

C. 1st Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

The general command issued to those blessed materially is to use what they have to help others, not to stop being rich.

D. Philippians 3:7-8

What must be surrendered is whatever is in the way of serving Christ 100%.

E. Luke 9:23-26

Discipleship is about daily cross-bearing.