

THE PARADOX OF RICHES  
(Matthew 19:23-29)

- I. The POVERTY of WEALTH (Matt. 19:23-26)
  - A. Jesus' WARNING about the HINDRANCE of WEALTH (19:23-24)
    1. "It is HARD for a RICH man to enter the Kingdom"
      - a. Tend to find SECURITY in their WEALTH
      - b. Tend to FOCUS on things of the WORLD
    2. It is IMPOSSIBLE for a RICH man to enter the Kingdom
  - B. The disciples' FEAR that NO ONE can be SAVED (19:25)
    1. They thought that POSSESSION of great wealth was PROOF of one's RIGHTEOUSNESS
    2. They thought the MORE one gave in sacrifices and alms, the GREATER their reward in heaven
  - C. Jesus' CONFIRMATION that they are CORRECT (19:26)
    1. Salvation is IMPOSSIBLE by HUMAN means
    2. Salvation is POSSIBLE by DIVINE provision (cf. John 6:44; 2 Tim. 2:24-26)

- II. The WEALTH of POVERTY (Matt. 19:27-29)
  - A. Peter affirms the disciples' SACRIFICES (19:27)
    - 1. They had "LEFT EVERYTHING"
    - 2. They had FOLLOWED JESUS
  - B. He asks if there will be a PLACE for THEM
  - C. Jesus speaks of the coming "REGENERATION" (19:28)
    - 1. Christ will RULE from His "GLORIOUS THRONE"
    - 2. His disciples will JUDGE ISRAEL from their own THRONES
  - D. Jesus promises ABUNDANT reward
    - 1. Expands it to EVERYONE who SACRIFICED for "My NAME'S sake"
    - 2. Promises "MANY TIMES" what they'd forsaken
    - 3. Promises ETERNAL LIFE