

Luke 18:18-30

I. The ruler and the “Good Teacher”

- A. Immediate context: humble yourself to receive the kingdom of God
- B. “What must I do to inherit eternal life?”
- C. “Why do you call me good?” (as in Luke 10:25-29)
- D. A keeper of commandments (see Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:6-21; Mark 10:21)
- E. “One thing you still lack.” (Colossians 3:3-4; 1 Peter 1:4-5)

II. The gravitational pull of possessions

- A. Jesus never calls us to *merely* get rid of our stuff.
- B. We are called to come to the great Feast in the kingdom of God. (Luke 12:32-34; Luke 14:33; Acts 4:32-35)
- C. But why does wealth have such a gravitational pull?
- D. We all have a tendency to think of God as someone he can bribe.
- E. Does Christianity make people better than they otherwise would have been?

III. Is it worth the cost?

- A. Jesus' promises to those who give up for the sake of the kingdom
 - i. Responding to Peter ...
 - ii. God knows and will care for your needs (Luke 12:22-31)
 - iii. You can confidently expect eternal **life**. (Not just eternal existence.)
 - iv. The experience of a life of sacrifice for the kingdom will be far better than any experience you have given up.
- B. How do we know that these promises are true? (Luke 18:31-34)