

LUKE Lesson 47

Things That Prevent Men From Coming to Jesus Christ (Chapter 18:9 to 18:30)

26 April 2019

1. SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PRIDE (Vss 9-14)

- They trust in themselves (vs 9)
 - They despise others (vs 9)
 - They are their own god (vs 11)
 - Their standard of righteousness is other men (vs 11) rather than God (Rom 3:23)
 - They abstain from some of the sins committed by other men.
 - They boast of their good works and obedience to the law (vs 12) as a way of justifying themselves.
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THE REPENTANT SINNER (in contrast)

- Is humble before God (vs 13)
 - Knows he's a sinner and hates what he is (vs. 13, Job 42:6)
 - Seeks God's mercy, not His approval (vs 13)
 - Ends up justified and exalted before God (vs 14); He declares us righteous (Rom 10:10, Php 3:9, Gal 2:16)
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2. REJECTING WHAT WE DON'T UNDERSTAND (Vss 15-17)

Jesus taught His disciples that children exhibit traits that make it easy to receive the kingdom of God.

- Higher education hinders faith in what we don't understand (Jn 7:47-49, Lk 10:21, 1 Cor 3:18-20).
 - Prejudices formed as we become adults can prevent us from coming to Christ (Mk 6:3, Lk 4:24, Jn 1:46, 7:52).
 - If you expect that you must understand everything about the Bible, it will keep you from Christ (1 Cor 1:26).
 - You don't have to fully understand to believe what God says (Isa 55:9).
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3. TOO MUCH OF YOUR LIFE INVESTED IN THIS WORLD (Vss 18-30)

- This rich young ruler wanted to inherit eternal life (vs 18)
- He respected the Lord, calling Him "Good Master."
- Jesus didn't deny that He is God (vs 19); He merely gave this man an opportunity to confess that truth (Rom 10:9). Compare (Mt 16:15-16).
- Jesus instructed this man to treat his fellow-man right (vs 20), which he claimed he did (vs 21).
- Jesus sought proof of this man's claim (vs 22).
- He revealed the sin that would prevent this man from following Him (vs 23). The man couldn't back up his claims of goodness toward others (Mt 3:8).

- Soul winner beware! Just because a person tells you they're saved doesn't mean they are. Get proof.
 - Jesus illustrated how riches are a great hindrance to people who want to enter into the kingdom of God.
 - Riches make it difficult to see your need for God because you feel like you have everything you need..
 - The disciples interpreted the Lord's words to mean that it was nearly impossible to be saved (vs 26).
 - Nothing is impossible with God (vs 27). You can't save yourself, but God can save anyone.
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THE REWARDS FOR GIVING UP YOUR LIFE FOR THE LORD (Vss 28-30)

- Don't count what you had to give up to follow Jesus; count the blessings.
 - It's worth it in this present time.
 - It will certainly be worth it in the hereafter.
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