

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1524

May 5, 2024

Genesis 13:2, “*And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.*”

Luke 18:23, “*And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich.*”

The term “very rich” is only used twice in the Bible. Once is to describe Abram, who later was named Abraham. The other is the young ruler who came to Jesus. Note the two differences in these men and how they both behaved toward the LORD after we are told that each man was very rich.

Only two verses after we are told that Abram was very rich, we are told that Abram went to Bethel and “there Abram called on the name of the LORD.”

In the account of the rich young man in Matthew 19:22, we are told that “he went away sorrowful.” Both of these men were very rich. One turned and called upon the LORD. The other went away from the LORD sorrowful.

The young man had been told to sell what he had and give to the poor. Jesus no doubt told him this because his riches were keeping him from the kingdom of God. Abram was close to the LORD regardless of his riches.

The young man was not an evil man. He asked Jesus in Matthew 19:16, “*Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?*” He wanted to have eternal life. Jesus told him various commandments of the law to keep, and the young man said he had done so since his youth. Jesus then told him in Matthew 19:21, “. . . *If thou wilt be perfect, go [and] sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come [and] follow me.*”

Why would Jesus ask this young man to do this, when there had been many rich people who were not asked this? Abram kept all his wealth and increased so much that the land could not hold his substance and Lot’s together. We see Abram still served the LORD regardless of his wealth. The young man had something keeping him from the LORD. It was his wealth. Therefore Jesus asked him to get rid of it and to come follow him.

Note that Jesus was not taking true wealth from this young man. He told the young man that by getting rid of his wealth here, he would have treasure in Heaven. Matthew 19:21, “*Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go [and] sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come [and] follow me.*”

For some people, they can have wealth here and still serve and obey the LORD. For others, they will need to rid themselves of things that are keeping them from following the LORD. It’s not the wealth that is wrong, it’s how we use it.

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Sunday 9am,10am,12pm; 6pm (Online) — Wednesday 6pm (Online)

News

—Continue to remember **Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Ken & Erin Davis, Becky Hatcher, Richard Connolly, Larry Compton, Linda Terry, Lauren Candela, Rick Gibbs, Sandy Duncan, Jerry Reynolds, Alice Vanderstoep, L. C.**

Duncan and Elliette Riffle.

—Congratulations to **Allen Riffle** who last week received his Master of Arts in teaching from the University of the Cumberland.

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Jesus did warn in Matthew 19:24, “*And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.*”

We truly are wealthy where we live and the time we are living in. We have an abundance of clean food and water, good houses, and automobiles. Most everyone has great abundance in things that simply enhance our enjoyment in life. We have cell phones, computers, the Internet, televisions, etc. We have a lot of disposable income to go to movies, sporting events, and take trips.

The LORD wants us to enjoy the things He has given us. Paul wrote in I Timothy 6:17, “*Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy.*” The LORD has given us richly all things to enjoy. But we are warned not to trust in them.

Many people think wealth will bring them happiness. It’s interesting that the rich young man was very wealthy, but we are told in Matthew 19:22 he was “very sorrowful.” In Mark 10:21 we are told

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Sunday, April 28, 2024

Classes	12	Luke 9:11-21
Preaching	24	Mark 4:3-20
Contribution	\$1147.00	
Afternoon	15	I Peter 5:1-9; Genesis 9:1-29

Bible Quiz

What did the LORD set in the cloud for a token?

Last Week’s Answer— The earth (Genesis 8:22)

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that Jesus loved this young man. He had the love of Jesus, great wealth, and the promise of wealth in Heaven. But, he went away sorrowful. He could not rid himself of the riches he had here that were keeping him from the LORD.

Riches will indeed bring sorrow if not used properly and for the LORD. Let’s enjoy and properly use our great blessings here while laying up treasures in Heaven.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)