

You Can't Even Love Your
Neighbor as Yourself
– Apart from God's Grace –

Luke 10:25-37

04-02/09/16-2017

Outline

- The Setting
- Life's Biggest Question
 - What Shall I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?
 - What is the Nature of Eternal Life?
- The Desire for Eternal Life
- What Are the Requirements for Inheriting Eternal Life?
 - How Do You Read the Law?
 - Knowing What the Law Says
 - Doing What the Law Requires
- The Illustration
- Whose Ability Will You Put Your Trust In

The Setting

- Jesus' final tour of Judea – Lk 9:23
 - Calling people to true repentance discipleship
 - Performing miracles and preaching
 - Most reject the call
 - Rejecting the diagnosis and prognosis
 - They refuse the cure
- Jesus ministers to crowds and individuals
 - Scribe/lawyer asks how to inherit eternal life – cf. 1 Jn 5:20
 - Asks the right person the right question
 - Receives the right answer
 - Incomplete Response??? Did he grasp what Jesus was telling him?

Life's Biggest Question

- The Jews believed in eternal life – cf. Rich young ruler (18:18; Mt 19:16; Mk 10:17)
 - Jesus teachings were known
 - He wanted to know how to receive what had been forfeited by sin
- Today's culture is losing it's conscious awareness of eternity
 - On the surface – PARTY 'til you die...then,? Who cares? – 1 Co 15:32
 - And yet, there is an inner itch we can't scratch w/o God's help – Ecc 3:11
 - Every time a loved one dies, each person is reminded of eternity
- General Revelation shouts of the Eternal One who is Beyond – Ro 1
 - But that is not the reason he believed in eternal life

Life's Biggest Question, 2

- This man was an expert in Mosaic Law
 - He knew he would face God – Job 19:19-27; Ps 16:11; 2 Sam 12:23; Dan 7:18; 12:2; cf. 2:44; Ps 21:4
- *Abraham's Children* (Israel) believed in a corporate salvation – Mt 3:9; Jn 8:39; Ro 9:4-5a
- This man recognized his personal accountability
 - Consciousness of personal guilt – cf. Mt 23:27
 - Accompanied by doubt of personal salvation
- Ask Jesus! He talks about it a lot! – Mt 25:45; Mk 10:29f.; Jn 4:36; 5:24; 39; 6:27, 40, 47, 54, 68; 10:28; 12:25, 50; 17:2f.

Modern Evangelism & Eternal Punishment/Life

- Hell – “no” leave that discussion out of it
 - We are told that *Love Wins* over all – even salvation after death (universalism)
 - You can still believe whatever you want...just add Jesus to your system
 - Not according to Jesus – Mt 8:12; 22:13; 24:51; 25:30; Mk 9:43-48
 - He talked about hell more than about heaven
- Heaven – “not that one either”
 - Modern emphasis is upon improving the temporal life
 - Modern techniques focus upon ministering to felt needs rather than eternal consequences
 - Jesus is presented as a cure for our malaise and dysfunction/pain

Bible's Promise for the Present Time?

Cf. Jn 13:21 – 17:26

- If you commit yourself as a true believer to Christ
- Then, you will be actively opposed by Satan and the world - Mt 10:28-42
- Therefore, things will probably become more difficult and painful
 - Ac 14:22; Ro 8:17; 1 Thes 3:4; 2 Tim 3:12; 1 Pet 4:12-16
 - Jesus set Himself apart on our behalf – Read John 13:21-17:26; cf. 1 Thes 5:23
- Salvation brings:
 - Peace with God - Eph 2:1-22
 - Supernatural peace that is beyond understanding – Jn 14:27; Php 4:4-9
 - Strength to endure trials and suffering – 2 Thes 3:3; 1 Pet 5:1-10,11
 - Comfort in sorrow and suffering – 2 Co 1:3-5
 - Joy from sorrow – Ps 30:5; Jn 15:11

The Evangelist's Message in Two Parts

- The joys of heaven belong to those who entrust their souls into the hands of the one who can destroy both body and soul
- The terrors of hell belong to all who refuse to bend their body, mind and soul before their Creator through Jesus Christ the Lord

The Desire for Eternal Life – 10:25

- The question was unexpected...as far as the crowd was concerned
- Scribes, νομικοὶ, nomikoi, nomikos, oi, lawyers, were the resident experts on Mosaic Law and its interpretation and application
 - Often accompanied the Pharisees-to discredit Jesus – Mt 12:38; 15:1; Mk 2:16; Lk 5:21; 6:7; 11:53; 16:2; Jn 8:3
 - This one seemed to truly want an answer to the question
 - The concept of corporate salvation had not displaced the reality of personal responsibility
- He stood and queried the “Teacher” – cf. Mk 10:2
 - With respect
 - Not with evil intent