

Two Rich Men Cross Paths with Jesus Christ...

Luke 18:18-27; 19:1-10

In a few weeks, we will be celebrating Christmas and New Year's Day. Instead of having a lesson about Jesus birth, let us study two similar people who encountered Jesus and the lessons we can learn. After all, it is about to be a new year and the best time to be the best possible person for the Lord. Before we talk about the two men let's start with a parable of that Jesus gave regarding two people praying.

1.) Who is the first person Jesus mention in the parable and what is his prayer?

Luke 18:9-12

2.) Who is the second person and what is his prayer?

Luke 18:13

3.) To Christ whose prayer is justified? Which person is more successful and pleasing to God?

Luke 18:14

4.) When it comes to our prayer life what can we learn from this parable? Why is it important to have the mindset of the publican even in spiritual matters compare to the Pharisee?

5.) Our lesson compares two rich/wealthy people who came across Jesus. Let's start at the first person. Who came to Jesus and what was his question?

Luke 18:18

6.) What was Christ response?

Luke 18:19-20

7.) The ruler was thrilled because he fulfilled the requirements. Then Jesus mentioned that he lacked something. What did Jesus tell the man to do and how did he take the request?

Luke 18:21-23

8.) What lesson did Jesus give to the people about this encounter?

Luke 18:24-27

9.) Now for the second person. Who was he and what was his desire?

Luke 19:1-3

10.) What did the man do to help him see Jesus, how did Christ respond?

Luke 19:4-5

11.) What did the tax collector say to Jesus and what was Christ response?

Luke 19:6-10

12.) Looking at the two men what are some of the main differences between them? Why does it appear one is lacking and the other is promised salvation?

13.) Between the two men, who would you rather be the ruler or the tax collector? Remember the ruler has friends and people to associate with while the tax collector is hated and despised. However, Jesus viewed them differently than society.

Just a Thought

The thing that we can really learn from the two men is their desires. The young ruler wanted eternal life, which is admirable, and something to yearn for. However, Zacchaeus wanted to meet Jesus. When we are thinking of Heaven or life after this earth, focus on Jesus. Sometimes we think of no pain, no struggle, perfect life, and other blessings from living in Heaven. The greatest gift that we can receive is to be with our savior, best friend, and Lord for all eternity. Think about your desires this upcoming year. Why do you do the things you do? Is it for eternal life or do you have a strong desire to be with Jesus?

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