



# Rich Young Ruler/Man

- Matthew 19.16-22
- Mark 10.17-22
- Luke 18.18-23

# Contradictions?

- Mark presents him only as a man with many possessions. Matthew calls him a "young man," and Luke describes him as a "ruler" who was "very rich."
- We see similarities and differences between the three versions of the story
- It is the same story!

### What Do We Know?

- A man rushes up to Jesus and kneeling before him, wanted to know what things he should do to obtain eternal life.
- From Matthew's account we learn that he is a young man (Matthew 19:20)
- From Luke's account we learn that he is a ruler (Luke 18:18)
- Probably referring to holding a position in the synagogue, which normally is reserved for elderly Jews.

# The Question

- "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- Possibly attempting to be polite, the young man calls Jesus "Good Teacher."
- Jesus objects to the use of the word "good" because he wasn't good, but he points out that only God is truly good

# Keep The Commandments

- The young man wanted something more specific to his situation, so he asked Jesus which commands did he need to follow.
- 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'
- Jesus focuses on the commands that deal with a man's relationship with his fellow man.

# Leviticus 19.18

- We see Matthew's version mentions "You shall love your neighbor as yourself"
- You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

#### Ten Commandments



You shall have no other gods before Me



You shall make no idols



You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain



Keep the Sabbath day holy



Honor your father and your mother





You shall not murder



You shall not commit adultery



You shall not steal



You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor



You shall not covet

# The Responses

- He knew that he kept these commands, but he also knew within himself that something important was missing.
- Jesus understood his sincere desire to do what was right.
- And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." (Mark)

## What Does This Mean?

- Jesus is not saying that everyone must sell everything they have to be a disciple of his.
- He is pointing out to this young man where the source of his greatest hindrance to righteousness lies.
- Sadly, we see that Jesus was correct.

### What About Us?

- How do we read this story?
- Are we coming to Jesus with the same question?
- 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'

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### What About Us?

- 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'
- Is there something that we hold dearer than life itself, something that we couldn't bring ourselves to give up, even for heaven? (Matthew 10:37-39).

