

Bible Study Series: “Not So With You” (lesson 4) Wealth

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Last week we discovered a choice we must make when coming face to face with shortcoming:
The choice of either: REPENT (go God’s Way) or
REBEL (stubborn disobedience)

The subject of wealth or perhaps our attitude about material resources is Jesus’ main focus! Today we will view 2 wealthy people’s responses to Jesus’ teaching regarding wealth.

A certain ruler asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁹“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ²⁰You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.’” ²¹“All these I have kept since I was a boy,” he said. ²²When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²³When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. ²⁴Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶Those who heard this asked, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.” Luke 18:18-27

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ²A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

⁵When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” ⁶So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. ⁷All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.” ⁸But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Luke 19:1-10

Idolizing Wealth produces _____.

- RYR = “When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy.” Luke 18:23
- Z = “All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.” Luke 19:7

Jesus treats both men the _____!

- RYR = “Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” Luke 18:22b
- Z = “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” Luke 19:5b

Meeting Jesus creates a very clear _____.

- RYR = “When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. Luke 18:23
- Z = “But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.” Luke 19:8

Bottomline:

- 1. We are talking about Christ-followers/Church and NOT those outside the Church!!!**
- 2. Wealth is a big problem within the American Church!**
- 3. Christ-Followers in America should be assisting the Poor, especially Christ-followers!**

All Scriptures are from the New International Version Bible. Send comments or questions: brotony@itawambachristianchurch.org