

Where's the Profit?

Mark 10:24-27
Charlie Brackett

Jesus told His disciples, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." As verse 24 clearly shows, He did not speak of all rich men, but those who trust in riches.

The disciples were greatly astonished. "Who then can be saved?" they asked. They thought, "Surely a rich man with all his standing and resources can be saved if anyone can." But, of course, they measured things in terms of this world, not in those of the world to come.

"Who then can be saved?" That was a vital question for them, and it is for us today. Jesus looked at them before answering. His look was intent. It, no doubt, underscored the answer He gave. "With men it is impossible," Jesus said, "But with God all things are possible." No matter the bank account one might amass, no matter his standing in the community, man cannot save himself. Back in chapter 8 of this gospel, the Lord said at verse 36f "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" The answer, of course, is that man can never have enough material wealth to buy his soul. One soul is worth more than the whole world.

Man has no way of redeeming his soul. He must look to God. His trust for salvation must be placed in the divine. All men, whether rich or poor, educated or untaught, must come to Jesus. He will save them. With men, this is impossible. But with God all things are possible.