



TRANSFORMING TRUTH

Trends deceive. Traditions enslave. God's Truth transforms.

"Reaching the Elite"

From the Series,

"Love, Tell, Help People"

Mark 10:17-28

Preached Sunday AM 5/25/14

Meadow Baptist Church

[In 1990, Turner made a speech to the American Humanist Association (read that—an atheist convention). During that tirade he made his now famous quip: "Christianity is a religion for losers."]

1. What the Redemption of the Elite Looks Like (Acts 16:11-15)

- a. People in prosperous places (11-12) - "So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, 12 and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days."
- b. People with spiritual hungers (13-14a) - "And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. 14 One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God..."
- c. People in whom God is working (14b-15a) - "The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. 15 And after she was baptized, and her household as well..."
- d. People who have something to offer (15b) - "...she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us."

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2. What the Refusal from the Elite Looks Like (Mark 10:17-28)

- a. A man with an incomplete résumé (17-18) - "And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?..."
- b. A man in spiritual blindness (19-20) - "You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" 20 And he said to him, Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth."
- c. A man exposed by the Savior (21-22) - "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." 22 Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions."
- d. A man who represents many (23-27) - "And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! 24 And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God. 26 And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, Then who can be saved? 27 Jesus looked at them and said, With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."

Landon: It's easier to stick a needle in the eye of a camel...

3. What Our Responsibility to the Elite Looks Like (1 Timothy 6)

- a. The elite need our eternal perspective (6-8) - "Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. 8 But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content."
- b. The elite need our cautionary counsel (9-10) - "But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs."

- c. The elite need our helpful redirection (17) - "As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy."
- d. The elite need our welcome to Gospel partnership (18) - "They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life."