

Lord, Who Then Can Be Saved?

Matthew 19:16-30





**Me: What can I do to
get healthier, doctor?**

**Doctor: Use a bicycle
and cut the carbs**

Me:



Matthew 19:23-27

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, 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.”

When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, “Who then can be saved?”

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Paradox of Jesus' Call

- **“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven....
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”
(Mt. 5:3,7)**
- **“You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” ...
The disciples asked [Jesus], “Who, then, is the greatest
in the kingdom of heaven?” (Mt. 8:26; 18:1)
“Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father
is perfect.” (Mt. 5:48)**

How God Does the Impossible Through Jesus' Presence



Road to Emmaus by Neil Alexander McKee

“I Am With You.”

- **“They will call him Immanuel (which means ‘God with us’) ... because he will save his people from their sins.”**
(Mt. 1:23,21)
- **“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault... For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”**
(Mt. 18:15ff)
- **“Therefore go and make disciples... And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**
(Mt. 28:19ff)

How God Does the Impossible Through Jesus' Presence

- **“My Father in heaven has revealed this to you.”**
- **“Your sins are forgiven.”**
- **“Your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”**
- **“Follow me, and I will turn you into fishers of people!”**

“My Father in Heaven Has Revealed This to You.”



Jesus' Farewell Discourse, from The Maesta by Duccio.

Reveals Who Jesus Is

“But what about you?” [Jesus] asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.”

(Mt. 16:13-17)

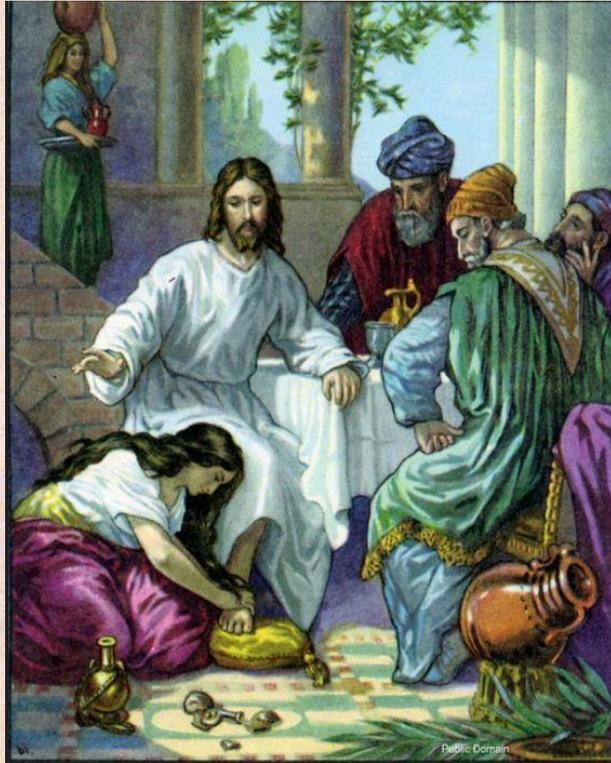
Reveals Who We Are

Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer ... and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”
(Mt. 16:21-23)

“Your Sins are Forgiven.”



Otto Semler, based on engravings by Carolsfeld

Forgiveness Changes Us

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair....

Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.” (Luke 7:44-47)

“Your Father, Who Sees What is Done in Secret, Will Reward You.”



The Praying Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane
Hermann Clementz (1852-1930)

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

(Matthew 26:36-41)

Peggy Vranish's Story



**“Your Father,
Who Sees What
is Done in Secret,
Will Reward You.”**

Parable of the Good Samaritan, by Domenico Fetti (1589-)

Because of Jesus' Presence, Aim High

- **Trust More** (Mt. 5:3-12; 6:19-34)
- **Ask for More** (Mt. 6:9-13; 7:7-12)
- **Listen More** (Mt. 11:26-26; 13:9)
- **Love More** (Mt. 5:43-48; 6:33; 7:12)
- **Serve More** (Mt. 5:13-16; 28:18-20)