

God Does the Impossible, We Respond with Sacrifice

Ah Lord Yahweh! Behold, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm; there is nothing too hard for you – Jeremiah 32:17

[Matthew 19:23-30] Jesus *seeing that he became very sad*, looked around, and said to his disciples, “Most certainly I say to you, a rich man will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven with difficulty.”

The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus answered again, “Children, how hard is it for those who trust in riches to enter into the Kingdom of God! Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye, than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God.”

When the disciples heard it, they were exceedingly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?”

Looking at them, Jesus said, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Behold, we have left everything, and followed you

Then Peter began to tell him, “Behold, we have left everything, and followed you.

What then will we have?”

Jesus said to them, “Most certainly I tell you that you who have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on the throne of his glory, you also will sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Everyone who has left houses, or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name’s sake, *for the Kingdom of God’s sake*, and for the sake of the Good News, will receive one hundred times more now in this time, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and land, with persecutions, and, in the age *and in the world to come*, will inherit eternal life. But many will be last who are first; and first who are last.” [Mark 10:23-31, Luke 18:24-30]

1. What did the disciples assume? How do we enter the Kingdom? What have you left?

2. Jesus lists 8 things left and 7 things received; what differs? What are your persecutions?

3. Lord God, nothing is impossible for you! Today for your Kingdom’s sake I will leave...