

May 8–14  
Matthew 19–20; Mark 10; Luke 18  
“What Lack I Yet?”



# Parable of the Unjust Judge

Luke 18:1-8

What does Jesus state that we should learn from this parable?

What do we learn from the widow about how we should approach the Lord in prayer?

Bruce R. McConkie

“If an unjust earthly judge will finally dispense justice because of the repeated importunities of the widow, how much more shall the God of all the earth, who is the embodiment of perfect justice and impartiality, grant the just petitions of his faithful saints.” (DNTC 1: 542)

## James E. Talmage

“Jesus... pointed out that if even such a being as this judge, who ‘feared not God, neither regarded man,’ would at last hear and grant the widow’s plea, no one should doubt that God, the Just and Merciful, will hear and answer.” (Jesus the Christ, pg. 436)

# Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican

Luke 18:9-14

Who did Jesus address this parable to?

What did the Pharisee pray for?

What did the publican pray for?

## Howard W. Hunter

"Could there be greater contrast in the prayers of two men?... The Pharisee asked nothing of God, but relied upon his own self-righteousness. The publican appealed to God for mercy and forgiveness of his sins....

"Humility is an attribute of godliness possessed by true Saints. It is easy to understand why a proud man fails. He is content to rely upon himself only.... The proud man shuts himself off from God, and when he does he no longer lives in the light." (CR, April 1984)

# Jesus Blesses the Children

## Mark 10:13-16

JST Matt 19:13

And the disciples rebuked them, saying, There is no need, for Jesus hath said, Such shall be saved.

What do you think it means to “receive the kingdom of God as a little child”?

## Jean A. Stevens

"What is it we should learn from children? What qualities do they possess and what examples do they demonstrate that can help us in our own spiritual development?"

"These precious children of God come to us with believing hearts. They are full of faith and receptive to feelings of the Spirit. They exemplify humility, obedience, and love. They are often the first to love and the first to forgive...."

"They are bright spirits who are untarnished by the world—teachable and full of faith. It is no wonder the Savior has a special love and appreciation for little children." (CR, April 2011)



## Mosiah 3:19

19 For the natural man is an enemy to God, and has been from the fall of Adam, and will be, forever and ever, unless he yields to the enticings of the Holy Spirit, and putteth off the natural man and becometh a saint through the atonement of Christ the Lord, and becometh as a child, submissive, meek, humble, patient, full of love, willing to submit to all things which the Lord seeth fit to inflict upon him, even as a child doth submit to his father.

# The Rich Young Ruler

Mark 10:17-22

What TWO things did Jesus tell this young man that he still must do to inherit eternal life?

Do you think the directive to “sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor” was just for this young man or is it for everyone who would follow Christ?

## Bruce R. McConkie

“In the case of our rich young friend there was more.... And we are left to wonder what intimacies he might have shared with the Son of God, what fellowship he might have enjoyed with the apostles, what revelations and visions he might have received, if he had been able to live the law of a celestial kingdom. As it is he remains nameless; as it might have been, his name could have been had in honorable remembrance among the saints forever.” (CR, April 1975)

## Joseph B. Wirthlin

“The Savior taught clearly the proper value of worldly possessions in his conversation with the rich young ruler....

“Many of us have made sacred covenants to live the laws of sacrifice and consecration. But when the Lord blesses us with riches and affluence, we may give little thought to how we should use these blessings to help build up his church.” (CR, Oct. 1990)

## Neal A. Maxwell

“To the commandment-keeping young man, Jesus responded, ‘One thing thou lackest,’ referring to an errant attachment to material possessions. Most of us lack more than just one thing. As we come closer to the Lord, He has promised to ‘show unto [us our] weakness’ (Ether 12:27). Hence, general goodness is no excuse for failing to work on those things which we yet lack.” (CR, April 1995)

# The Rich Young Ruler

Mark 10:23-27

Why is it hard for those “that have riches enter into the kingdom of God”?

Why do you think it is so difficult for someone to give up their faith in riches and to strengthen their faith in God?

## Daniel H. Wells

“The Lord does not care how wealthy a man becomes, so long as he holds his wealth for the building up of His kingdom, and for the carrying out of His purposes upon the earth. But when he becomes covetous, and allows his means to get between him and his God, his riches become a canker to his soul.... It is a great pity for a man in this Church to get rich, if he cannot hold everything upon the altar, to be used, if necessary, for God and his kingdom.” (JD, 23:303)

## Hugh Nibley

"We are told that the apostles were amazed beyond measure when he told them that. They didn't know about any postern gates through which a camel comes. That's an invention of modern-day criticism. There is no evidence anywhere at all that there was a gate called 'The Eye of the Needle.' No, Jesus really meant it: It's impossible. You've got to get rid of your treasures."  
(Approaching Zion, pg. 315)



# The Rich Young Ruler

Mark 10:28-31

What does Jesus promise those who sacrifice for the gospels sake?

## Bruce R. McConkie

"Peter's statement, 'we have forsaken all, and followed thee,' said after the rich young ruler made his great refusal, declining as he did to follow Christ, was followed by the question: 'What shall we have therefore?' ...

"In its initial application, the parable applied to Peter and the apostles; they bore the burdens of the kingdom during the heat of the day and came off marvelously well. But there were others, all of whom in due course would be called to service in the vineyard of the world. What if some of them, laboring but for an hour, should receive equal or even greater rewards than the first laborers?" (The Mortal Messiah, 3:307-310)

# Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard

Matt 20:1-16

What did the laborers who started early in the day expect when they saw the late arrivers receive the same wage that they had been promised?

What do you think that Jesus is trying to teach His disciples in this parable?

## Jeffrey R. Holland

"There are going to be times in our lives when someone else gets an unexpected blessing or receives some special recognition. We are not diminished when someone else is added upon. We are not in a race against each other.... The race we are really in is the race against sin....

"What happened in this story at 9:00 or noon or 3:00 is swept up in the grandeur of the universally generous payment at the end of the day. The formula of faith is to hold on, work on, see it through, and let the distress of earlier hours fall away in the abundance of the final reward." (CR, April 2012)

# To Be Great in the Kingdom of Heaven

Matt 20:20-23

Why did the Lord not grant the desire of this good and righteous mother?

Do we ever ask God for things that could be similarly categorized?

## Neal A. Maxwell

"To the mother of James and John, who wanted her sons to sit on Jesus' right and left hands, Jesus noted simply that the Father had already made that decision.... We sometimes ask, don't we, for things the implications of which we do not fully understand? Some of the most important prayers we have offered are those that were not answered as we hoped they might have been. There is mentoring in that process too. No wonder the scriptures teach that we are to ask in faith but we are also to strive to ask and to petition for that 'which is right'." ("Jesus, the Perfect Mentor," Ensign, Feb. 2001)

# To Be Great in the Kingdom of Heaven

Matt 20:24-28

How does greatness in the world differ from greatness in the kingdom of God?

## Dieter F. Uchtdorf

"In God's kingdom, greatness and leadership means seeing others as they truly are—as God sees them—and then reaching out and ministering to them. It means rejoicing with those who are happy, weeping with those who grieve, lifting up those in distress, and loving our neighbor as Christ loves us. The Savior loves all of God's children regardless of their socioeconomic circumstance, race, religion, language, political orientation, nationality, or any other grouping. And so should we!

"God's greatest reward goes to those who serve without expectation of reward. It goes to those who serve without fanfare; those who quietly go about seeking ways to help others; those who minister to others simply because they love God and God's children." (CR, April 2017)



Next Week:

May 15–21

Matthew 21–23; Mark 11; Luke 19–20;

John 12

“Behold, Thy King  
Cometh”

