

## Mark 10:17-27

### God Alone Saves

By Eric Douma  
November 10, 2013

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Contrast In A Rich Man's Question

Mark 10:17 As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"+

Mark 10:15 Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all.+

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Jesus' Ironic Response

Mark 10:18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone.

Mark 10:19 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.' "

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Rich Man Needed A Different God!

Mark 10:20-22 And he said to Him, %Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up.+ **Looking at him**, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, %One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and **come, follow Me**. But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.

Mark 2:14 He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, %**Follow Me!**+And he got up and followed Him.

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### How Difficult Is Salvation?

Mark 10:23-25 And Jesus, looking around, said to His disciples, %**How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!**+The disciples were amazed at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, %Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! %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.+

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### People Are Powerless To Believe

Mark 10:26-27 They were even more astonished and said to Him, %Then who can be saved?+Looking at them, Jesus said, %With people it is impossible, but **not with God; for all things are possible with God**.+

**Impossible** = adunatos %without ability or power+

**Possible** = dunatos %having ability or power+

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Applications

1. We must understand that every person is born a sinner that is unable to do anything pleasing to God.
2. We must understand that it is only through God's sovereign choice to regenerate that anyone can come to faith in Christ.

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## 1. The Inability of Mankind

### Born Sinners:

Romans 5:19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

### Inability:

Romans 8:7-8 ESV For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. **Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.**

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## 1. The Inability of Mankind

**Arminian:** God gives ~~prevenient~~+ grace to all people.

**Deciding Factor:** Human free will

**Biblical:** God gives saving grace only to His elect.

**Deciding Factor:** God's sovereign choice

Matthew 13:11 Jesus answered them, ~~to you~~ it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, **but to them** it has not been granted.+

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## 1. Answering Objections

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

### Two Different wills of God:

1. **Moral will:** God wills that no one should murder.
2. **Decretive will:** God wills what actually comes about.

Romans 9:19 You will say to me then, Why does He still find fault? For who resists His will?

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## 2. God Gives Faith To His Elect

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace **you have been saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God

by grace+= instrumental dative

through faith+= preposition of means

that refers to:

1. grace
2. faith
3. adverbially = and especially
4. salvation by grace through faith

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## 2. What Saving Faith Looks Like

Luke 18:11-13 The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get. But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, God, be merciful to me, the sinner!

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---