

Riches

Outline - Mike Baird July 2003

Rich man and the Savior.....	1
Why is it so hard?	1
How do you avoid the problems of riches?	2
What if you are not rich as to the things of the world?	3

Rich man and the Savior

- Mark 10: 17-27
 - v 17-21

“One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me”
 - v 22

“he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions”
 - v 23 - 25

“How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!”
“how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into 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 into the kingdom of God”

Why is it so hard?

- Riches can cause pride
 - Alma 4:6

“people of the church began to wax proud, because of their exceeding riches, and their fine silks, and their fine-twined linen, and because of their many flocks and herds, and their gold and their silver, and all manner of precious things, which they had obtained by their industry; and in all these things were they lifted up in the pride of their eyes, for they began to wear very costly apparel”
 - 2 Nephi 9:30

“For because they are rich they despise the poor, and they persecute the meek”
- Where is your heart?
 - Matt 6:21

“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”

- 2 Nephi 9:30
“and their hearts are upon their treasures; wherefore, their treasure is their god. And behold, their treasure shall perish with them also”
- No man can serve two masters
 - Matt 6:24
“Ye cannot serve God and mammon”
- In our prosperity we set aside God
 - Helaman 12:2
“they do harden their hearts, and do forget the Lord their God, and do trample under their feet the Holy One—yea, and this because of their ease, and their exceedingly great prosperity”

How do you avoid the problems of riches?

- Christ gives key after telling it is hard
 - Mark 17:26-27(JST)
“With men that trust in riches, it is impossible; but not impossible with men who trust in God and leave all for my sake, for with such all these things are possible”
- Lay up treasure in Heaven
 - Matt 6:19-20
“lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven”
- Share of your riches
 - Alma 1:30
“thus, in their prosperous circumstances, they did not send away any who were naked, or that were hungry, or that were athirst, or that were sick, or that had not been nourished; and they did not set their hearts upon riches; therefore they were liberal to all..”
 - Mosiah 4:21-23
“O then, how ye ought to impart of the substance that ye have one to another”
- Seek riches with right intent
 - Jacob 2:17-19
“Think of your brethren like unto yourselves, and be familiar with all and free with your substance, that they may be rich like unto you.
But before ye seek for riches, seek ye for the kingdom of God.

And after ye have obtained a hope in Christ ye shall obtain riches, if ye seek them; and ye will seek them for the intent to do good—to clothe the naked, and to feed the hungry, and to liberate the captive, and administer relief to the sick and the afflicted.”

- Give of what you have
 - Mosiah 4:26
“for the sake of retaining a remission of your sins from day to day, that ye may walk guiltless before God—I would that ye should impart of your substance to the poor, every man according to that which he hath”

What if you are not rich as to the things of the world?

- Mosiah 4:24-25
“And again, I say unto the poor, ye who have not and yet have sufficient, that ye remain from day to day; I mean all you who deny the beggar, because ye have not; I would that ye say in your hearts that: I give not because I have not, but if I had I would give.
And now, if ye say this in your hearts ye remain guiltless, otherwise ye are condemned; and your condemnation is just for ye covet that which ye have not received.”