

“To Be Whole and Well”
Matthew 19:16-22 (Mark 10; Luke 18)

“Do you wish to be complete – whole and well? mature and perfected?” – Matt 19:21

This Rich, Young Ruler Made at Least Five Mistakes:

#1 – He Mistook the Son of God (the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ) for a “Good” Teacher – Mk 10:17; Lk 18:18
...He is no “good” teacher of morality or self-improvement schemes – Jo 14:6

#2 – He Thought He Could Generate His Own Goodness – Matt 19:16
...our self-generated “goodness” is of no use – Ro 3:10-12,20; Ps 55:2-3

#3 – He Had a Very Shallow and Erroneous View of Human Wholeness – Matt 19:20
...that the fulfilled life depends upon human performance and achievement – Matt 19:16
...the law makes nothing perfect, complete, whole – Heb 10:14; Ro 7:13; 8:3; Ga 2:16; 3:23

#4 – He Had Convinced Himself He Had Met All the Requirements of the Law – Matt 19:20
...when he was living in violation of the first one: “You shall have no other gods...” – Ex 20:3

GOD’S ECONOMY OF SPIRITUAL WHOLENESS AND PERSONAL WELLNESS – Matt 19:21

- “Go” – Matt 8:4,13; 9:6; Mk 5:19,34; 10:52
...under the framework of a new authority, a new condition – Ro 6:4; II Cor 5:17
...completion, wholeness is in responsivity, not passivity – Ro 1:5; 16:26; Matt 7:24; Jo 7:17; 13:17
- “Sell” – Lk 12:15
...the treasure of wholeness and wellness is in God, not the “goods” – II Cor 4:7; Lk 12:34
...disentangle from the unprofitable – Mk 8:36
- “Give” Acts 20:35; Lk 22:27
...the witness of joy is upon the “poured out life” – Heb 12:2; Phil 2:6-7
...a willingness to spend and be spent for others – II Cor 12:15; Pil 2:3,4
- “Follow Me” – Jo 10:27
...Human wholeness is found in a fixed focus on Christ, not on ourselves – Col 2:9,10; Heb 10:14; II Pet 1:3,4
...Calls for an adjustment of priority – Matt 6:3; Lk 10:42; Phil 3:8; Jo 17:3

#5 – The Rich, Young Ruler Walked Away from the Answer – Matt 19:22
...Jesus always puts Himself between the “seeker” and what is being “sought” – (various “I am” statements!)
...The cost of disobeying is higher than the cost of trusting – Lk 12:20-21