“If Thou Wilt Be Perfect”
Matt. 19:16-22

Introduction:
A. Is anyone “perfect?”
   1. Not in absolute sense (cf. 1 John 1:8-10).
   2. But in relative sense - complete or mature.
      a. “Perfect” faith. (Jas. 2:22).
B. Ruler obeyed God in may things, but was incomplete in his obedience.
C. We may do many things and still need something to make us complete.

Discussion:
I. One Can Be A Good Person and Still Be Incomplete.
   A. Cornelius was a good man. (Acts 10:1-2, 22)
   B. Cornelius was incomplete - needed more to be saved (Acts 11:14; 10:6, 48).

II. One Can Have Faith and Still Be Incomplete.
   A. Must have faith to please God. (Heb. 11:6; John 3:16; Jas. 2:19).
   B. Must have add works to perfect (complete) our faith. (Jas. 2:20-24).

III. One Can Quit Sinning and Still Be Incomplete.
   A. One needs to quit sinning. (Rom. 6:1-2)
   B. One must get forgiveness of past sins to be complete.
      2. Of sins committed while a Christian. (1 John 1:9; Acts 8:22)
         a. If secret sin - confess to God.
         b. If know to others - confess to them also. (Cf.. Mt. 5:23,24; Lk. 17:3).

IV. One Can Be A Member of Right Church and Still Be Incomplete.
   A. Members of “church of God ... at Corinth” misbehaved. (1 Cor. 1:2; 5:1; 6:7).
   B. Members may stand ground on “church question” and still be incomplete.
      1. Unfaithful in attendance.
      2. Ignore daily responsibilities to the Lord and his church.

V. One Can Attend All Church Services and Still Be Incomplete.
   A. We must attend the services. (Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7).
   B. We may attend every service and still be unfaithful.
      1. If we think “faithful” and “attending regularly” to be synonyms.
      2. If we think of church as a “worship club”, must like a civic or service club.
      3. If we think and speak of the Lord only “at church.”
      4. If we identify with Lord’s people 1-4 hours a week, with Devil crowd the rest of the time.
      5. If away from church we act like never heard of Christianity: Lie, cheat, drink, gamble, etc.

Conclusion:
A. We must do our best to obey all commands. (Matt. 4:4).
B. We must obey all to become a Christian and to be complete as a Christian.