The Rich Young Ruler
Matt. 19:16-22

Introduction:
A. The one who came.
   1. Young Ruler (Mt. 19:20,22; Luke 18:18)
   2. Eager — came running (Mk. 10:17).
   3. Reverent — knelt (Mk 10:17).
B. The time that he came.
   2. During personal ministry various conditions of salvation. (Matt. 9:2; Lk 23:43).
C. We divide this story into four parts — learn from each part.

Discussion:
I. The Young Man’s First Question and the Lord’s Answer (vv. 16-17)
   A. Recognized the source of eternal life.
      1. Jesus had words of eternal life (John 6:68)
      2. Jesus was good — was God (v. 17).
   B. Recognized the conditionality of eternal life.
      1. Knew had to do something.
      2. If nothing — universal salvation or God is partial.
   C. Recognized the nature of eternal life.
      2. In the world to come. (Mk 10:30).
   D. Lord’s answer: “Keep the commandments.” (Cf. 1 John 5:3)

II. The Young Man’s Second Question and the Lord’s Answer (vv. 18-19)
   A. Cannot have eternal life without these.
   B. Must repent and be forgiven if have not kept these.

III. The Young Man’s Third Question and the Lord’s Answer (vv. 20-21)
   A. Had kept these important commands from youth.
   B. Yet, he knew he still needed something.
   C. Lord’s final answer (v. 21).
      1. Given out of love (Mk. 10:21)
      2. Knew his heart and potential.

IV. The Young Man’s Final Sad Response (v. 22)
   B. Cost may differ with different people.
      1. Sinful or hindering possessions
      2. Sinful or hindering occupations.
      3. Sinful or hindering recreations.
      4. Sinful or hindering relationships.
         a. Polygamy; homosexual; living together.
         b. Unlawful marriages. (Cf. Matt. 14:4; Ezra 10:3)
         c. Legitimate relationships.
   C. Must want eternal reward more temporal cost. (Mark 10:29,30).

Conclusion:
A. What would you be willing to do to have eternal life?
B. What would you be willing to give up to have eternal life?