



On the Road Again

Matthew 19:1-20:43; Luke 17:11-19:27;
Mark 10:1-52; John 11:54-12:1

Let Me Stress Once Again

- Is the control which the Godhead exercised over the events of this entire drama - a drama at once the most awful and the most blessed in all of human history.
- The notion that Jesus was an unwitting, unsuspecting, and/or reluctant victim is by Biblical standards an absolute fiction.
- Throughout the events of this final week of His mortal life, our Lord was entirely in control of His destiny.

However...

- This is not meant to call into question the culpability of those who “by wicked hands” crucified the Prince of Life.
- It is simply to affirm that ultimately God was never absent from the throne of the moral universe, that throughout this week - as at all other times - God was in fact acting, not reacting.

On the Other Hand...

- It is not to deny that Jesus lived out these events within the limits of genuine and entirely unfallen humanity; as one commentator puts it:

“it is not to suggest that in this most awful drama Jesus was simply pretending to be man...playing a carefully rehearsed part with such expertise that it looked for all the world as if He were genuinely deliberative or disappointed or terrified or suffering, whereas in truth He was simply playing the role assigned Him with consummate artistic skill.”

The Main Point:

- **The Gospels record and suggest specific ways in which Jesus did in fact orchestrate the events of His own passion, and that except at those (occasional) points in the narrative at which the Spirit directed Him to access attributes of deity, He did all of this within the limitations intrinsic to (unfallen) humanity.**

Where We Left Off:

- John 11:54 –

“Therefore Jesus no longer continued to walk publicly among the Jews, but went away from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim; and there He stayed with the disciples.”

John 11:55-57

55 Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up to Jerusalem out of the country before the Passover to purify themselves. **56** So they were seeking for Jesus, and were saying to one another as they stood in the temple, “What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?” **57** Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where He was, he was to report it, so that they might seize Him.

The Facts:

1. No one knows where Jesus is, but the question on everyone's mind is "What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?" (John 11:56)
2. The leaders of the Jews in Jerusalem have committed themselves to the murder of Jesus (John 11:53), and they now have demanded the aid of the people in that effort (John 11:57).
3. Meanwhile, Jesus remains hidden in Ephraim until it is time for Him to go to the feast.

Luke 17:11

“While He was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee.”

What is it about the route seems strange?



Map of Israel in the New Testament

Let's Put the Pieces Together

During the Passover season, great throngs of Jewish pilgrims from the north (Galilee) would travel together to Judea, making the longer trek through Perea in order to avoid defiling themselves by treading on Samaritan soil.



As Passover Grew Near...

Jesus and His disciples departed the little village of Ephraim, moved north through Samaria and Galilee (Luke 17:11), and then, evidently just into Galilee, crossed over the Jordan rift and joined one of the great pilgrim bands going up to Passover (Matthew 19:1).



Jesus is Intentional

- Jesus and His disciples pass through Samaria and Galilee, intending to join the pilgrims traveling down the eastern side of the Jordan River, heading for Jerusalem to observe Passover.
- As Jesus makes this final journey up to Jerusalem for the Passover feast at which He will die, He begins once again to conduct Himself as the claimant to the mantle of Messiah.

For Several Months...

- Jesus has avoided confrontation, avoided miracles, and sought solitude, anxious for the opportunity to be alone with His disciples.
- Now, as He moves toward that climactic event, He is anxious to once again focus the attention of the nation upon Himself and His claims.
- Thus this return to a confrontational, miracle-working, notoriety-seeking mode of ministry.



Luke 17:12-19

- Ten Lepers are healed; one returns to give thanks.
- **Luke 17:19** – “And He said to him, “Stand up and go; your faith has made you well.””

Jesus Begins to Teach

- As He and His disciples then fall in with the pilgrims.
- He teaches on the imminence of the Kingdom of God (Luke 17:20-37).
 - Luke 17:24 – “For just like the lightning, when it flashes out of one part of the sky, shines to the other part of the sky, so will the Son of Man be in His day.”

Two Parable on Proper Prayer

1. The Persistent Widow (Luke 18:1-8)

- “now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them?” (18:7)

2. The Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14)

- “I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.” (18:14)

The Pilgrims Pass into Perea

- Matthew 19:1 – “When Jesus had finished these words, He departed from Galilee and came into the region of Judea beyond the Jordan.”
- He then teaches on divorce, which was an issue violently dividing the Jewish world of that day.

Turn to Matthew 19:1-12

***Parallel passage in Mark 10:1-12**

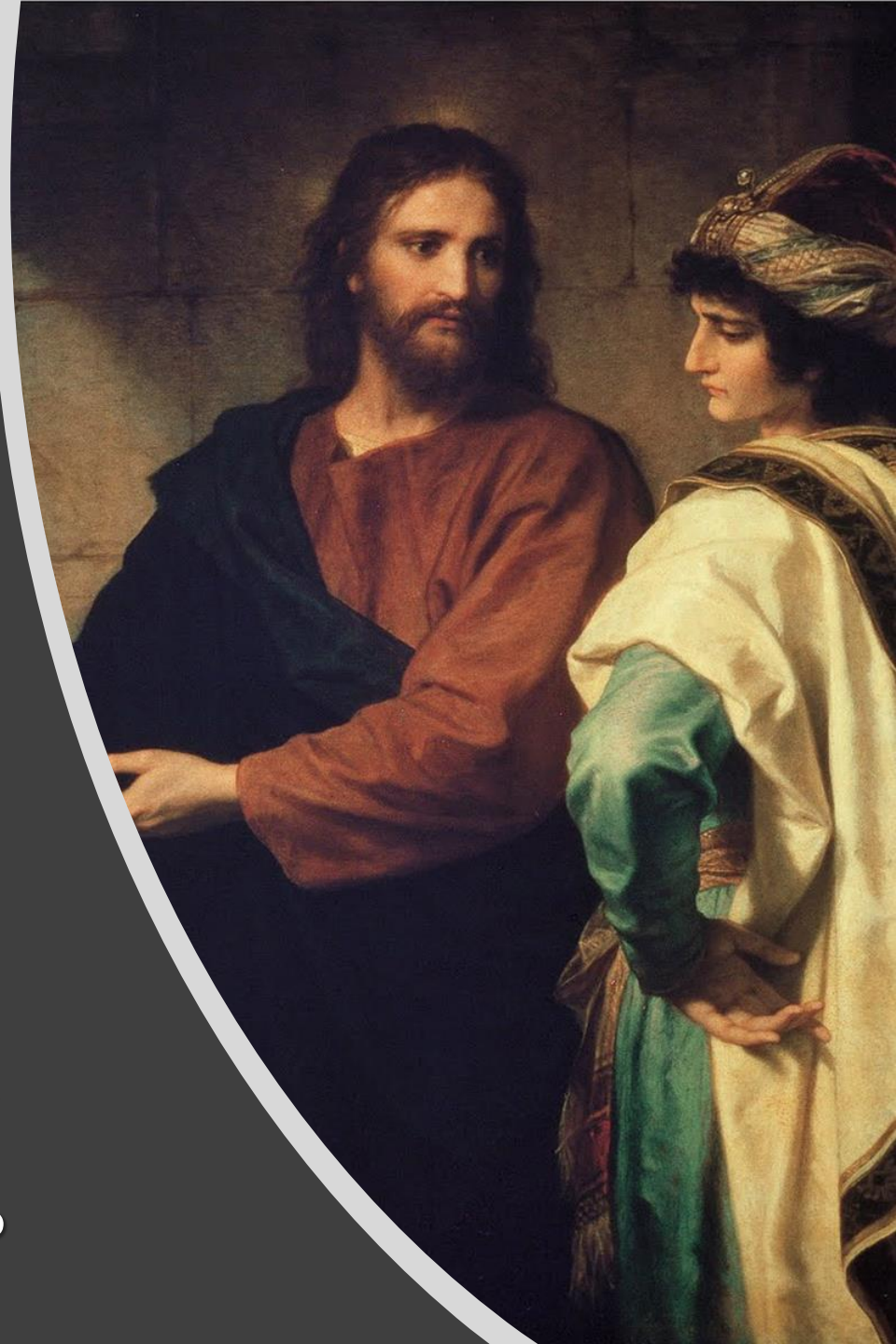
Children and the Kingdom

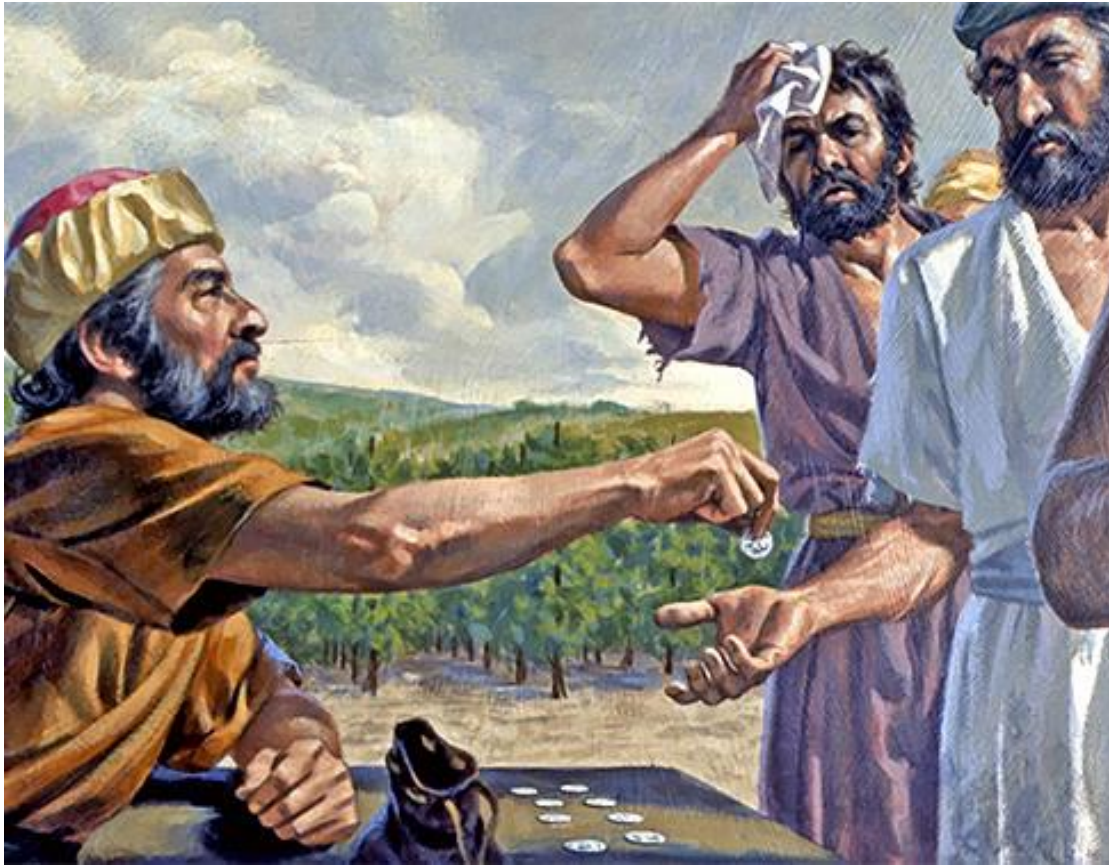
- Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17
- Matthew 19:14 – But Jesus said, “Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”



The Rich Young Ruler

- Matthew 19:16-30; Mark 10:17-31; Luke 18:18-30
- **Matthew 19:21 – Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”**
- Matthew 19:24 – “Again I say to you, 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.”





The Teaching Continues

- Laborers in the Vineyard
- **Matthew 20:1-16**
- Matthew 20:15 – “Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with what is my own? Or is your eye envious because I am generous?”

Privately with the Twelve

Jesus clearly foretells His death and resurrection.

Matthew 20:17-19; Mark 10:32-34; Luke 18:31-34

Matthew 20:18-19 – “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and will hand Him over to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify Him, and on the third day He will be raised up”

James & John Rebuked

- Matthew 20:20-28; Mark 10:35-45
 - Mark 10:37 – They said to Him, “Grant that we may sit, one on Your right and one on Your left, in Your glory.”
 - Mark 10:45 – “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”



At Jericho

**Blind Bartimaeus
and his
companion are
healed.**

**Matthew 20:29-34;
Mark 10:46-52;
Luke 18:35-43**

**Let's take a look at
each of these
accounts.**



Jesus and Zacchaeus

- Luke 19:1-10
- 19:5 – When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, “Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house.”
- 19:9 – And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham.”

The Parable of the Pounds (Luke 19:11-28)

- **19:12** – So He said, “A nobleman went to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself, and then return.”
- **19:22-24** – He said to him, “By your own words I will judge you, you worthless slave. Did you know that I am an exacting man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow? Then why did you not put my money in the bank, and having come, I would have collected it with interest?” Then he said to the bystanders, “Take the mina away from him and give it to the one who has the ten minas.”

The End of Jesus' Teaching

- Luke 19:26-27 –

“I tell you that to everyone who has, more shall be given, but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away. But these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them in my presence.”

What?!?!

The Key is in the Parable

- Look back at Luke 19:14 –

“But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We do not want this man to reign over us.’”

What is the Point of this Parable?

At This Point (Luke 19:28)

“After He had said these things, He was going on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.”

What Do You Think The Atmosphere Is Like In This Large Throng Of Pilgrims?



John 12:1

“Jesus, therefore, six days before the Passover, came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.”

Jesus and the twelve stop at Bethany, evidently late on Friday afternoon (“six days before...”).

The throngs with whom they had been traveling proceed to Jerusalem, anxious to arrive before the Sabbath commences at sundown.

They Arrive Friday Afternoon

Jewish law set the maximum walking range from one's city to 2,000 cubits (3,049.5 feet, 0.596 miles (960 meters)).

Practically speaking, this means that you may not walk a straight line more than .598 miles (3161.74 ft.) in any direction in outside your city limits.

Bethany is a approximately 1.625 miles from Jerusalem.

Why is this germane to our discussion?

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of this final week of
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