

# Do You Want To Go To Heaven?

*Matthew 19:16-30*

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# Are You **Serious** About Heaven?

*Spiritual Matters on Mind?  
Going to Heaven?  
Serving God (who is in heaven)?*

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# *The Rich Young Ruler*

Matthew 19:16-30  
Mark 10:17-22  
Luke 18:18-23

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# Are You Serious About Heaven?

I. Evidence That He Was Serious

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I. Evidence That He Was Serious

- A. Came to Jesus (verse 16) "ran" (Mark 10:17)
- B. Asked about spiritual matters (verse 16)
- C. Wants eternal life (verse 16)
- D. Done the commands (verses 17-20)
- E. Been faithful and consistent (verse 20)

So when told to sell all we would assume he would do it immediately because he is so serious!

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# Are You Serious About Heaven?

I. Evidence That He Was Serious

II. Evidence That He Was Not Serious

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## II. Evidence That He Was Not Serious

### His Challenge – Hard Command (verse 21)

- *Sell all he has*
- *Give to poor*
- *Come and follow me*

- A. Not willing to change
- B. Not willing to give up hindrances
- C. Attachment to money meant more than heaven

Not as serious about heaven  
as it appeared he was!

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# Are You Serious About Heaven?

## I. Evidence That He Was Serious

## II. Evidence That He Was Not Serious

## III. Problem: Misplaced Priority

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- A. When not serious – can't go to heaven (verses 23-26)
- B. Must be willing to sacrifice (verses 27-30)
  1. *Context: Rich young ruler – not willing to sacrifice*
  2. *Peter: We have sacrificed a lot – what do we get?*
  3. *Reward is yet future (verse 29)*
  4. *Meanwhile:*
    - a. Follow Christ (verse 28)
    - b. Give up ALL that is necessary to do so (verse 29)

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## I. Evidence That He Was Serious

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## IV. How Serious Are You?

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- A. Possible to look like we're more serious than we are
  1. *Obey gospel (Romans 6:17)*
  2. *Faithful in worship (Hebrews 10:25)*
  3. *Emphasis to "God said" or "Bible says" (2 Corinthians 4:13)*
  4. *Sacrificed (Matthew 19:29)*
  5. *Do better than many others (1 Corinthians 15:58)*

Would think that when told something  
they lack – would change  
because SO serious!

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## IV. How Serious Are You?

- A. Possible to look like we're more serious than we are
- B. Possible to fool self into thinking we are serious
  1. *Can deceive self (1 John 1:8; James 1:22)*
  2. *Because we hear and acknowledge truth (James 1:22)*
  3. *Because we are better than others (Luke 18:9-14)*
  4. *Because we have done so well in other areas (Matthew 19:16ff)*

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**IV. How Serious Are You?**

- A. Possible to look like we're more serious than we are
- B. Possible to fool self into thinking we are serious
- C. Possible there's something I'm not willing to do
  - 1. *Maybe forgiving another (Luke 17:1-5)*
  - 2. *Maybe faithful worship (Acts 2:42)*
  - 3. *Maybe leading family (Ephesians 5; 1 Peter 3:1-7)*
  - 4. *Maybe submission (1 Peter 3:1-6)*
  - 5. *Maybe home responsibilities (1 Timothy 5:13; Titus 2:5)*
  - 6. *Maybe dealing with straying (2 Thessalonians 3:6-15)*
  - 7. *Maybe conforming to standards (1 Timothy 2:9-10)*

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- II. Evidence That He Was Not Serious**
- III. Problem: Misplaced Priority**
- IV. How Serious Are You?**

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