

Matthew 19:16-18a

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which ones?"

Ten Commandments that's it, there are only ten of them. It's like if the Lotto contained ten numbers, and if you selected all ten of them you would win the Lotto, but then someone would come along and ask, "Which ones of the ten?"

You may be thinking that sounds stupid, because in order to win the Lotto you would have to select all ten of the winning numbers, not five or seven or even nine of them, it has to be all ten.

But here in today's devotional verses the rich young man was actually asking that same type of question. Hey Jesus, I want to win the Lotto and go to heaven (*what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?*) And Jesus' response is, if you want to win the Lotto (get to heaven), you must pick the right numbers (*if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments*).

And even though there are Ten Commandments, Jesus still responded with:

† **Matthew 19:18b-19** *Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "*

Jesus gave him six of the ten, and his response was

† **Matthew 19:20** *The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?"*

Thanks Jesus, I know about those six numbers, but what are the other four numbers? With Jesus' response being the main number.

† **Matthew 19:21-22** *Jesus said to him, "'If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.' "*

Oh man that numbers to hard for me, the rich young man thought to himself.

† **Matthew 19:22** *But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.*

Why? Because he had to give up what he worshipped, money, in order to keep the first commandment.

† **Exodus 20:3** *You shall have no other gods before Me.*

But how many time do we ask the same question?

How much can I get away with before it's sin?

How much can I drink?

How much do I really have to give back to God?

How far is going too far with that guy or girl?

Is it really bad that we live together since we are going to get married anyway?

God wants me happy so having this same sex relationship is ok, because it make me happy.

This particular instance here in the bible, I believe is the only time I recall Jesus telling someone to give up their money. Why, because it was his god.

What about Zacchaeus, didn't he give a bunch of his money back? Yes he did, but Jesus never asked him to. Jesus just said to him

† **Luke 19:5** *And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house."*

Yet Zacchaeus is his joy that the Lord accepted him, WILLINGLY did the following:

† **Luke 19:8** *Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."*

Today, you may have been saying "which ones" in regards to what sins can you actually do and still make it into heaven?

The response is not to rebuke you for asking how to make it to heaven, just like Jesus did not rebuke the rich young man for asking. The real question is, if you are told the answer, will you be willing to do what Jesus said? *Come, follow Me.*

† **Deuteronomy 6:5** *You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.*