

## Matthew 19:27-29 Forsaking All and Following Jesus

Introduction: In this text we hear the apostle Peter ask Jesus a question (verse 27) and we hear the Lord's answer (verses 28-29).

### I. Peter's question to Jesus, verse 27.

- A. Peter had heard Jesus instruct the rich young ruler to go sell all and give it to the poor and to come follow Him.
- B. Peter could say that this was essentially what he and the other apostles had done.
  - 1. They had not sold all and given all away, but they had forsaken all and followed Jesus.
  - 2. About three years ago he and Andrew had been tending their father's fishnets when Jesus called them to follow Him and be fishers of men.
  - 3. Likewise, James and John had been called the same day.
  - 4. Matthew had been in the tax office when Jesus called.
  - 5. So had all twelve been called to follow Jesus and all twelve had forsaken all and followed Jesus. (Forsaken their occupation, parents, homes, friends, family, and all else to follow Jesus. For three years they had followed.)
- C. Peter could recall that Jesus had promised a great reward, Matthew 16:27.
- D. Now they were headed for Jerusalem and Jesus informed them that He will be killed and they will be persecuted.
- E. The question in his mind, and perhaps in the minds of the others, was "What am I going to get out of all this? And what are all the others going to get?"
- F. Peter was bold enough to ask.

### II. The answer concerning Peter and the apostles, verse 28.

- A. Some have criticized Peter, accusing him of being selfish, but Jesus did not seem to think so.
  - 1. Jesus did not rebuke Peter.
  - 2. He treated the question as a legitimate question.
- B. He answered the question not only for Peter, but for all twelve of the apostles.
  - 1. Jesus knew, of course, that one of the apostles was unsaved and would die unsaved.
  - 2. But He knew also that another would be elected to that vacated office and would reap the rewards of the office.
- C. Jesus promised that they would be rewarded by each ruling a tribe of Israel in the millennium.
  - 1. This would be in a time He called "in the regeneration," a new beginning for the world. (A turn around for the world.)
  - 2. Jesus would be on the throne and in His glory.
  - 3. The twelve tribes will be regathered and Israel will be great.
  - 4. Christ will rule the world and the twelve will assist Him in ruling Israel.
  - 5. The apostles will be able to say, "It is worth it all."

### III. The answer concerning all who follow Jesus, verse 29.

- A. Jesus anticipates a similar question in the minds of all who follow Him.
- B. Whatever sacrifice the child of God is called upon to make in order to follow Jesus, it will be well worth the cost. (He will be rewarded a hundredfold. Literally, "manyfold." Not just 100 percent but many times 100 percent.)
- C. He will also inherit everlasting life.
  - 1. Note: He will not get everlasting life as a result of his sacrifice.
  - 2. Everlasting life is a gift, not a reward, John 3:36; Romans 6:23.
  - 3. He will receive a hundredfold reward in addition to all the benefits of everlasting life. (That is like saying, "a hundredfold reward and heaven too" or "all this and heaven too.")
- D. Brethren, even today every child of God is called upon to forsake all and follow Jesus.

1. The God called preacher is called upon to leave his parents, houses, lands, friends, family, occupation and follow the Lord wherever He might lead.
  2. Every child of God is called upon to forsake the ungodliness of his past and of the world and follow Jesus. (Lying, cursing, drinking, etc.)
  3. He is to forsake the pleasures of the world.
  4. He is to forsake all doctrine of his past that is not in harmony with the Lord's doctrine.
  5. He is to be willing to forsake anything that would interfere with following Jesus.
- E. When he receives that hundredfold reward, he will be able to say, "It was worth it all." (The sacrifice that may seem so big right now will seem so small then.)

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