

## THE MAN WHO WENT AWAY

### Mark 10:17-22

**Introduction:** All of us have seen people with what seemed bright futures fail to accomplish that which seemed so natural for them to accomplish. Some have dreams of what they want to do with their lives but never get around to doing what they dreamed so much of being able to do. None of us have probably accomplished everything we ever dreamed of doing, but there are some who could have but for a selfish reason, never did. The text speaks of such a person who came to Jesus but went away rejecting Jesus' advice.

### I. OF THIS MAN WHO CAME TO JESUS THERE ARE SOME QUALITIES TO PRAISE

1. In eagerness he ran to Jesus. His mind was made up to get to Jesus as he believed that Jesus had the answers to what he wanted to know.
  - This is a much needed quality today, go eagerly to Jesus to seek answers.
  - Sadly, there are many who know a lot about Jesus but do not seek His help.
2. In humility he kneeled at Jesus' feet.
  - This man was wealthy, held a high position, recognized in his community.
  - Jesus had no social standing, had little if any material wealth and His teachings strange.
  - This man was an exceptional man who could give advice, not seek it.
  - Today, there is a lack of respect toward the things of God, even the House of God and His Name.
3. In courage he came to Jesus.
  - It was in broad daylight, where anybody could see him.
  - He made no pretence about why he had come to see Jesus.
  - There are countless people of today who are afraid to make an open confession of /about Jesus.
4. In recognition of Jesus' authority he came to Jesus.
  - This man came to Jesus and called Him "Good Master."
  - He saw Jesus as a teacher sent from God, somebody very special.
  - Not everybody today sees Jesus as being somebody very special. To countless, Jesus was just a man like every other man who did some unusual and wonderful things, but nevertheless just a man.
5. In concern for his spiritual life he came to Jesus.
  - This man was concerned about eternal life and asked Jesus what he had to do to have it.
  - He could have asked Jesus for and about anything, but his interest was a spiritual one.
  - There is great importance for everyone to focus, to dwell on spiritual matters of one's' life.
6. In uprightness he came to Jesus.
  - This man had kept all the commandments all his life.
  - He wanted to know what else he lacked, what was missing, what was wrong?
  - To the contrary, many feel they don't need anything else, especially forgiveness for they have kept the "golden rule," as best they could and that should be enough.

7. In sincerity he came to Jesus.
  - He was a fine, upstanding, God-fearing, God-obeying man and Jesus loved him.
  - He was a spiritual and moral man.
  - He lacked one thing, however and Jesus pointed that out.
  - He cared more for what he had than for what he needed and wanted from Jesus.
  - What this man lacked is what countless lack today, they have the same problem.

## **II. A SORROWFUL BREAKDOWN HAPPENED**

1. Jesus pointed out the one thing the man lacked.
  - In silence the man rose up and walked away in sorrow.
2. He turned to refusal to do that one thing Jesus told him he needed to do to have eternal life.
3. Eternal life is had by yielding ALL one has to God in belief in the Lord Jesus.
  - This man had indeed kept all the commandments, but loved his material things more.
  - This man had indeed bent the knee, but he had not bent his will.
  - This man had indeed bowed his head, but he had not bowed his heart.
  - This man wanted heavenly treasures but he did not want to give up his earthly treasures.
  - The only thing he lacked in having eternal things, he refused to do.

## **III. LESSONS FROM THIS MAN'S ATTITUDE**

1. Salvation is not secured by human morality or works for none of these erase sin.
  - Only through Jesus Christ does salvation come.
2. Ignorance of God's Word and a self-generated idea of salvation by works and being good/morality causes people to walk away from the only way of salvation.
3. Total surrender of all one is and all one has is necessary for salvation and this man didn't want to give up his material wealth.
  - It can be wealth or it can be anything of the world.
  - God will put His finger on it when a person is serious about eternal, salvation things.

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. This man that came to Jesus represents countless who have done the same thing through the centuries.
  - Some have gone away in sorrow like this man because they didn't want to give up what was required of them to have eternal life.
  - However, some have received eternal life because they did give up what was required of them and they have never been apart from Jesus since.
2. What about YOU? Have you come to Jesus but turned away for whatever reason? OR have you come to Jesus and stayed?