

## Encounters With Jesus

### *The Rich Young Ruler*

(Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-22)

- Introduction:**
1. Have you ever known of anyone who seemed to have everything, but threw it all away by poor decisions?
  2. This is the case with tonight's text.
  3. A rich, young, ruler, who was wanting to know what to do to inherit eternal life, had an encounter with Jesus that didn't end up the way anyone would have hoped.
  4. Let's examine his encounter.

#### I. The Rich, Young, Ruler Came to the Right Person

- A. (Matthew 19:16).
- B. Where do you go for an answer to questions?
- C. As you know, there are many voices, not all of them are worthy to believe.
- D. (2 Kings 5:1-7, 1 John 4:1; 1 Timothy 4:1-2).
- E. Jesus was a proven, attested, man of God (Acts 2:22).

#### II. The Rich, Young, Ruler Asked the Right Question

- A. (Matthew 19:16,18,20).
- B. What greater questions can be asked than those dealing with eternal life?
- C. Some people make asking questions a trivial game (2 Timothy 3:7).

#### III. The Rich, Young, Ruler Received the Right Answer

- A. (Matthew 19:18-21).
- B. Jesus gave the right answer (1 Peter 2:22).
- C. (John 6:28-29).

#### IV. The Rich, Young, Ruler Made the Wrong Decision

- A. (Matthew 19:22).
- B. He loved his riches more than he desired eternal life.
- C. (Matthew 16:26).

- Conclusion:**
1. What a tragedy that has been replayed over and over again in the lives of countless people.
  2. Everyone wants to be saved, few want to make Jesus Lord of their lives.
  3. What about you? Are you willing to give up your most prized possession or most valued part of your life in order to be a disciple of Jesus?
  4. This question will separate the curious would-be disciples of Jesus from the committed disciples of Jesus.