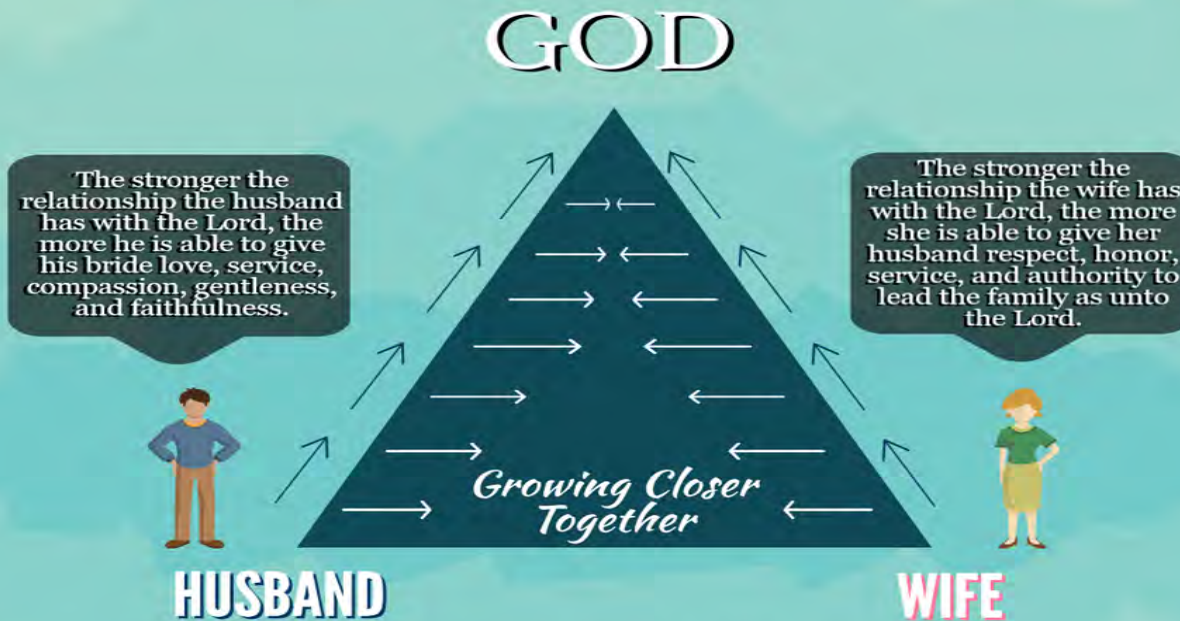


The Good Guy Quest for Eternal Life

Matthew 19: 16: 26

February 26, 2023

Closeness with God Closeness with Your Spouse



The closer your relationship is with God, the closer your relationship will be with your spouse.

MARRIAGE

www.LastingMinistry.com

The rich young ruler is on a quest for eternal life, the *“I did it my way”* quest

Verse 16

The quest involves an “I” focus,
“What must I do?”

This man addresses Jesus as *“Good Teacher”*

He does not have a clue who is standing before him – *GOD!!*

John 1: 3

Acts 17: 25

Job 12: 10

The rich ruler joined the cry of humanity –
“How can I live forever?”

Verse 17 - 19

**Jesus' response: Good guys need to
be perfect**

Jesus' truth statement: *"No one is good, but One, that is God"*

To be good, one must keep all the commandments, all the time, perfectly!

James 2: 10

NO CAN DO!!

What is good?

Good, in God's eyes, is **perfection**; perfectly holy, like God Himself

PROBLEM: We are not perfect; we are all sinful – **Romans 3: 23**

“For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God”

PROBLEM: The wages of sin is death
Romans 6: 23

GOOD NEWS: *“The Gift”* is eternal life for all who will believe and receive the gift - **John 1: 12**

Verse 20

The good guy thinks he is perfect

What do we call this?

*Hubris, pride, arrogance, a man
devoid of self-examination*

**For all who think they are perfect, I have this
look for you**



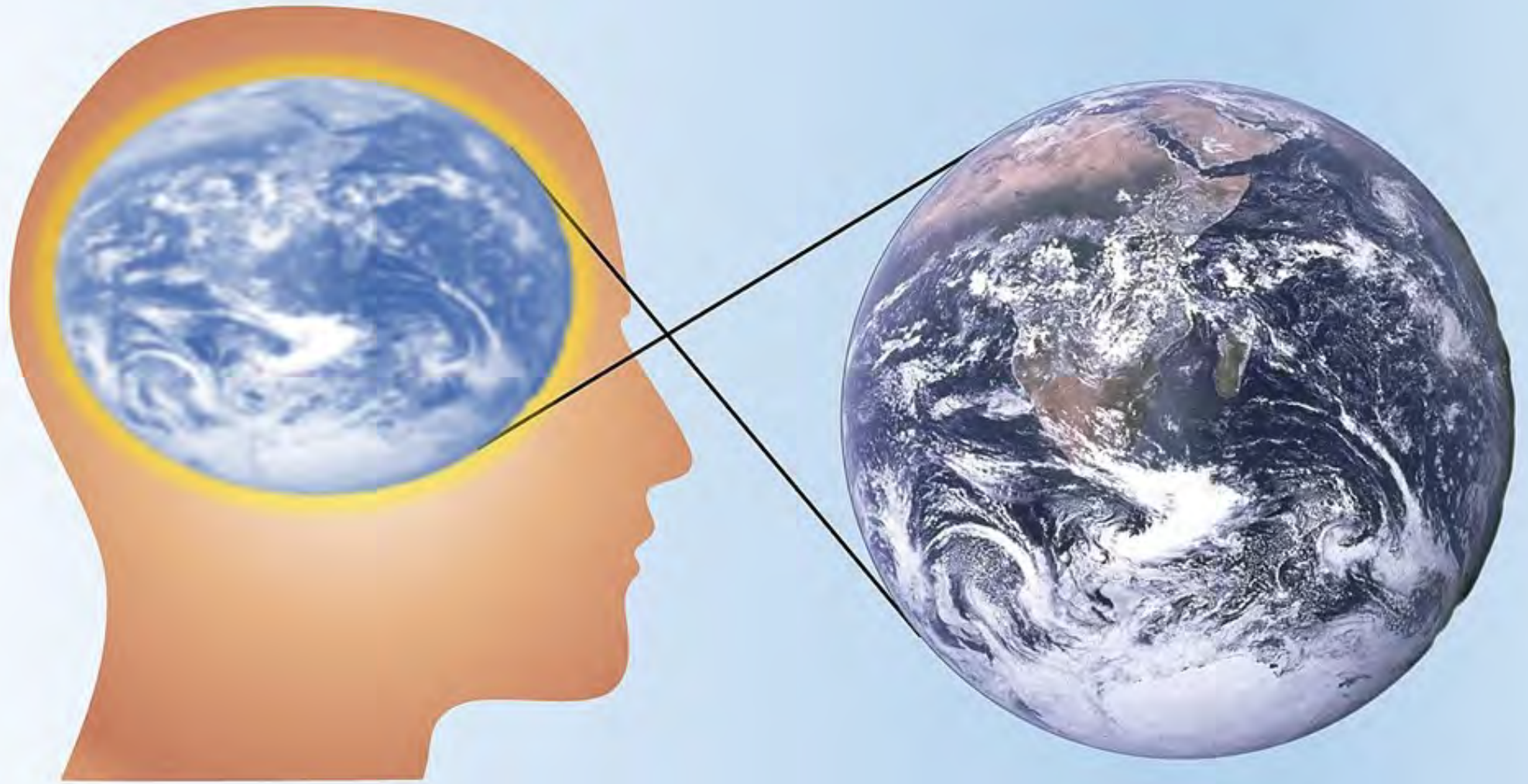
Verse 21 - 22

The good guy response to Jesus:
“Oh no, not that!”

Jesus hit him in his good guy heart – ***“Go, sell what you have and give it to the poor . . .”***

Then Jesus gives him an invitation, an offer of salvation – ***“Come, follow Me”***

This good guy sees through worldview, temporary eyes, and *not* spirit, eternal eyes!



Paul has something to say about worldview
nearsightedness – [2 Corinthians 4: 18](#)

The young man went away sorrowful, giving
up the eternal for the temporary (*stuff that
burns*)

**Entropy is real, everything good will one day
be dust!**

ENTROPY



ORDER TO DISORDER



**Entropy
applies to
humans;
*you can't
stop the
clock!***



Jesus tells us about entropy

Matthew 6: 19-21

THINK ABOUT IT:

This good guy's only
hope was rejected for
stuff that burns!

Verse 23

Jesus warns about riches having you

**Riches are not the problem, riches
owning you is the problem**

**Jesus' illustration on the problem of
riches**

TIME 4
GOD

It is easier for
a camel to go
through the
eye of a
needle

than for a
rich person
to enter the
kingdom of
God.

Matthew 19:24







"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." (Mark 10:25)



The little door of the gate was called the eye of a needle. It was used for people to enter the city after the main door was closed at night.

Rich or poor, status or no status, we all come one way - *as a child, humbly, through Christ!*

The disciples see the impossibility, “*Who then can be saved?*”

Jesus' answer:

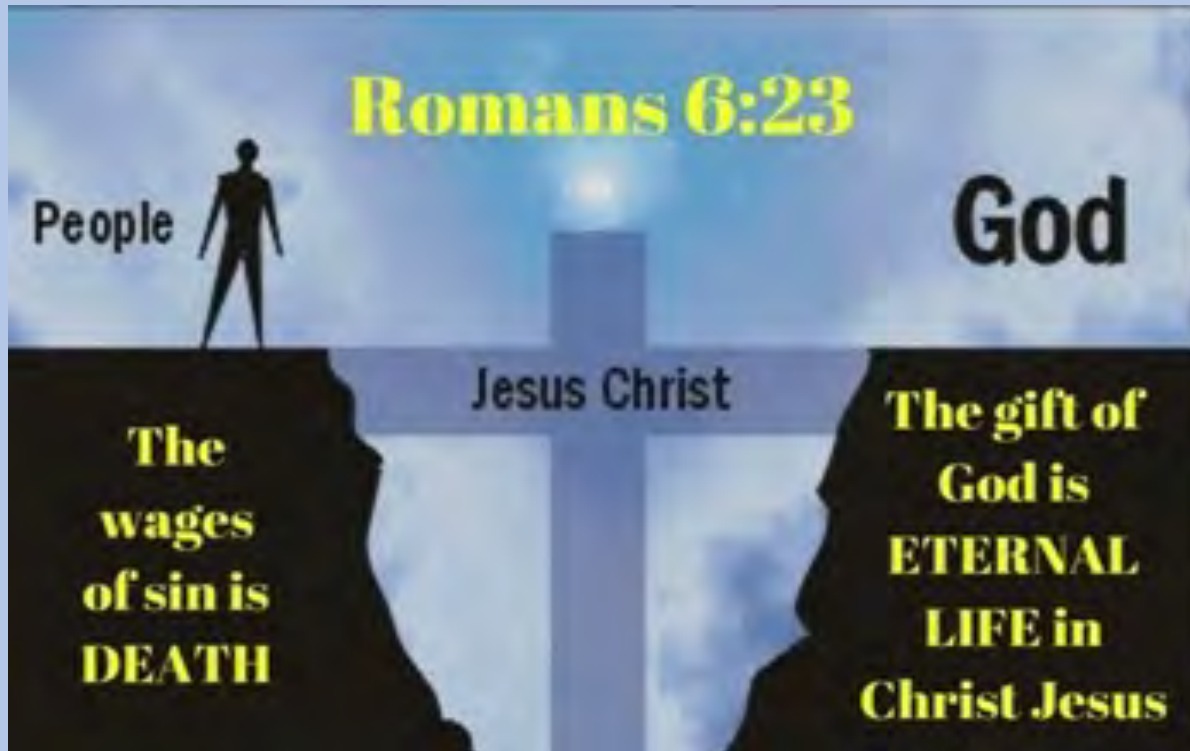
“With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible”

SUMMATION OF SALVATION:

We are saved when we simply believe (*trust in and accept as true for me*) that Jesus is God's Son, the Savior from my sins

Salvation is absolutely free, and is apart from any condition or merit to earn it

Salvation is a God miracle – God acts to save by sending **His Only Begotten Son** to die for our sins. **The human part is to believe and receive the gift!**



If you
confess with your mouth
the **LORD JESUS** and
believe in your heart
that **GOD** has
raised Him from the dead,
you will be saved.

Romans 10:9

Jesus' cry to all humanity: ***“Come, follow Me”***

Remember the heart of God - **1 Timothy 2: 4**

2 Peter 3: 9

Matthew 23: 37

1 Peter 3: 18

There is no neutral ground with Jesus, you are either for Him or against Him – **Matthew 12: 30**

You demonstrate you are for Him ***by following and obeying Him!***

C.S. Lewis – ***“It is not safe to ignore Jesus”***

'Course he
isn't safe.
But he's
good. He's
the King, I
tell you.'



Is this God thing real? *Let's look at the evidence!*

Cosmos – screams a Creator

Canon of Scripture – screams a Creator

Fulfilled prophecy – screams a Creator – *only found in the Bible*


Conscience – screams a Creator

Conditions for life – screams a Creator – *the universe is fine-tuned for life on earth*

Cosmological Argument – time, space and matter came into existence at the same moment

Whoever did this identifies Himself as GOD –
He is spaceless, timeless, immaterial, powerful,
and personal!

The **Cosmological** Argument



Whatever begins to exist **has a cause**.

The universe began to exist.

Therefore, the universe **has a cause**.

Christ's Resurrection – screams a Creator

Continuation of the Jewish nation - screams a
Creator



Throughout time, mankind has attempted to prolong life, to search for the fountain of youth

There is one constant of men pursuing eternal life, none of them have succeeded


God determines the length of mankind's days

God gives life and God takes life

Everyone has an appointment with death

Mankind's only solution to the death problem is Jesus – John 14: 6

The final invitation given in Scripture is Revelation 22: 17



And the Spirit and the bride say,
“Come!” And let him who hears say,
“Come!” And let him who thirsts
come. Whoever desires, let him take
the water of life freely.

Revelation 22:17

Jesus loud and clear

“COME, AND FOLLOW ME”

The question is

WILL YOU?