



# ***WHAT WENT WRONG?***

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**JOHN MACARTHUR IN HIS BOOK "THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JESUS" CHAPTER 7 STATES HIS EXPERIENCE. ONE DAY ON AN AIRPLANE FLIGHT A FELLOW PASSENGER OBSERVING HIM TO BE READING HIS BIBLE ASKS "YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO KNOW HOW I CAN HAVE A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS, WOULD YOU?"**

**SUCH PROSPECTS DO NOT COME THAT  
EASILY, SO AFTER A FEW REMARKS HE THE  
PASSENGER WAS LED IN PRAYER AND  
ASKED JESUS TO BE HIS SAVIOR  
ONE MONTH LATER HE WAS WATER  
BAPTIZED**

**AFTER A SHORT TIME, HE BROKE OFF  
CONTACT AND JOHN LATER DISCOVERED  
THAT THE CANDIDATE HAD NO  
CONTINUING INTEREST TO THE THINGS OF  
CHRIST**

# WHAT HAPPENED?

**GETTING PEOPLE TO PROFESS FAITH IS  
EASY, GETTING THEM TO FOLLOW THE  
LORD IS MORE FRUSTRATING  
SALVATION IS ONLY FOR THOSE WHO ARE  
WILLING TO GIVE CHRIST FIRST PLACE IN  
THEIR LIVES**

## **Matt 19:16-22 ESV**

**16 And behold, a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" 17 And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." 18 He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not bear false witness, 19 Honor your father and mother, and, you shall love your neighbor as yourself." 20 The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" 21 Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." 22 When the young man heard this, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.**

# ETERNAL LIFE INVOLVES CONVERSION, EVANGELISM AND THE NEW BIRTH

JESUS NEVER ASKED HIM TO MAKE A  
“DECISION”

JESUS LAID OUT SOME TERMS THAT WERE  
UNACCEPTABLE TO HIM, AND IN FACT IT  
CAN BE SAID THAT JESUS DROVE HIM  
AWAY

**THIS YOUNG MAN HAD**

➤ **THE RIGHT MOTIVE, THE RIGHT ATTITUDE, CAME TO THE RIGHT SOURCE, ASKED THE RIGHT QUESTION, BUT HE WENT AWAY UNREDEEMED**

***RIGHT MOTIVE***

**THE MAN KNEW WHAT HE WANTED/ LACKED HE WANTED “ETERNAL LIFE”**

**JOHN MACARTHUR: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JESUS CHAPTER 7**

**IT IS A QUALITY OF THE REDEEMED AND HE  
KNEW HE WAS MISSING IT**

***RIGHT ATTITUDE***

**HE WAS NOT**

- **HAUGHTY OR PRESUMPTUOUS IN FACT  
HE SEEMED DESPERATE**
- **MARK 10:17 SAYS HE CAME RUNNING  
AND HE CAME PUBLICLY**
- **HE HAD BEEN RELIGIOUS ALL HIS LIFE,  
YET SOMETHING WAS MISSING**



- **HE WAS READY AND YOU DID NOT HAVE TO SING “JUST AS I AM” FOR THIS MAN**
- **WHAT A CATCH FOR JESUS ----- YOUNG RICH, INTELLIGENT AND INFLUENTIAL**
- **THINK OF WHAT HE COULD DO FOR THE LORD**

***RIGHT SOURCE***

***HE CAME TO THE SOURCE OF ETERNAL  
LIFE ITSELF***

## ***1 John 5:11 & 20 ESV***

***11 And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son***

***20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life***

***HE ASKED THE RIGHT QUESTION***

***WHAT GOOD THING SHALL I DO TO  
INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE?***

***THE ANSWER: WE HAVE TO BELIEVE***

***KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS .... JESUS  
IMMEDIATELY ERECTED A WALL***

***IF A PERSON WOULD KEEP THE LAW HAD  
NEVER VIOLATED A SINGLE JOT, HE  
WOULD BE PERFECT, SINLESS' [JAMES 2:20]***

BUT NO ONE EXCEPT THE SAVIOR IS LIKE THAT  
JESUS KNEW THAT HE WAS LACKING A SENSE  
OF HIS OWN SINFULNESS

MUCH OF CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANITY IS  
WOEFULLY DEFICIENT WHEN IT COMES TO  
CONFRONTING PEOPLE WITH THE REALITY OF  
THEIR SIN

UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE YOUR SINFULNESS YOUR  
LIFE BECOMES AN OFFENCE TO GOD

***HE DID NOT CONFESS HIS GUILT***

***SALVATIONAL IS NOT FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT  
AN EMOTIONAL LIFT, BUT FOR SINNERS WHO  
COME TO GOD FOR FORGIVENESS***

***HE KEPT SAYING I DON'T HAVE ANY REAL SIN I  
HAVE KEPT THE LAW***

***JESUS LOOKED ON HIM WITH LOVE, BUT DID  
NOT GRANT HIM ETERNAL LIFE UPON REQUEST***

# ***HE COULD NOT SUBMIT TO CHRIST***

THOSE WHO ARE UNWILLING TO TURN FROM SIN, POSSESSIONS, FALSE RELIGION, SELFISHNESS WILL FIND THEY CANNOT TURN TO CHRIST IN FAITH



***WHAT WENT WRONG?***