

Week 15 – A Box of Life

By Pastor Palmer Wold

When the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful...then Jesus said to his disciples, "It is almost impossible for a rich man to get into the kingdom...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." – Matthew 19:22-23

A young man who was very rich came to Jesus one day, asking what he should do to inherit eternal life. Jesus told him to obey all the commandments. The young man seemed to think that he had done just that. The Jesus told him to sell all he had and give it to the poor. When he was unwilling to do that, it revealed that he had not even kept the first commandment. He walked away dejectedly.

In 1975, six armed gunmen broke into deposit boxes in a London bank and stole valuables worth more than seven million dollars. One lady whose jewelry was appraised at \$500,000 said, "everything I had was in there. My whole life was in that box!" What a sad commentary on her values!

Wealth or status should not be what defines a life. Wealth can be beneficial; but when it becomes a first love, it can destroy. And when an unhealthy attachment to material things exists, it can keep a person who is not a Christian away from the Lord and can cause a Christian to slip away from Christ. We need to make Christ our first love and everything else will fall into place!

Question: If you were given a million dollars, how would you spend it?