

“Things Thought Impossible”

Luke 18: 18 – 27

Miracles! What are they? Do they still happen? A good definition of a miracle is, “an event which is impossible scientifically but which happens anyway.” There are probably all kinds of situations in life that could be thought of as miracles. Modern scientism often rejects the concept of creation because it requires the supernatural work of a Creator. But that is the very point! This world and its complex systems could never have come into being by some “natural” process.

Jesus said in (Vs. 27) of the scripture lesson, “What is impossible with men is possible with God”, however the specific context of this verse is the great work of salvation. The Lord Jesus had just shocked a rich and morally upright young ruler by telling him that to inherit eternal life, he needed to give all his possessions to the poor, thus laying up treasure in heaven. This he would not do, so Jesus said in (Vss. 24b – 25), “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, 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.”

The astonished disciples, who had always believed that wealth was a mark of God’s favor, exclaimed in (vs. 26), “Who then can be saved?” To answer their question, Jesus answered with the thrilling words of (vs. 27), “What is impossible with men is possible with God.”

Salvation requires a miracle – a miracle of special creation as we see in (2 Corinthians 5:17), “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone; the new has come.” The rich man must become a different man altogether, a ‘poor man’ in fact, no longer trusting in riches, but trusting only in Jesus. Jesus then invited this man to come follow him. This does not necessarily mean that a rich man must actually give all his possessions away, but it does mean he can no longer trust in his riches or use them merely for his own selfish pleasure. This same principle applies to any other ‘riches’ a person may have when he comes to Christ; whether education, or skills, or heritage, or anything else. All these ‘things’ must be considered according to the Apostle Paul’s words in (Philippians 3: 7), “But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.”

When a person really and sincerely yields their life to Christ for salvation then the God of the impossible supernaturally makes them into a new creation, and their wealth, strength and talents as well as their very life all belong to their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Yes, this is possible, only believe.

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