Sermon Notes

Insights from Luke

#71 – "Counsel Given to the Rich Young Ruler" – Luke 18:15-27

I. Introduction

- A. The importance of children
 - 1. Important, yes, but often marginalized
 - 2. Harry Chapin
 - 3. Pastor Don's experience growing up and today
- B. Today's text: Luke 18:15-27

II. Exposition

- A. Luke 18:15
 - 1. Children, especially babies, can be noisy.
 - 2. Greek word BREPHĒ very young
- B. Luke 18:16-17
 - 1. Teaching opportunity
 - 2. Age of accountability?
 - a. John MacArthur
 - 3. Children have a sin issue from birth.
 - a. Psalm 51:5; 58:3
 - 4. Children do possess something that adults find difficult to acquire.
 - a. Believability
- C. Luke 18:18
 - 1. "Ruler" He was a man of means, verse 23.
 - 2. "What must I do?" (Works)
- D. Luke 18:19
 - 1. "Good teacher" probably flattery.
 - 2. Wrongly interpreted to mean no deity in Jesus.
 - a. Deity asserted John 5:17-18; 8:58; 10:30-32

E. Luke 18:20

- 1. Jesus deals with a works-driven sinner.
 - a. Gal. 3:12
- F. Luke 18:21
 - 1. Confident in his law-keeping
 - 2. J. C. Ryle
- G. Luke 18:22
 - 1. The scalpel is now applied to the man's cancerous dead heart.
 - a. Exodus 20:3
- H. Luke 18:23
 - 1. He walks away back to the "good life."
- I. Luke 18:24-25
 - 1. Do not diminish Jesus' comment while looking for a plausible earthly explanation.
- J. Luke 18:26-27
 - 1. Those present understood.
 - 2. First century health and wealth
- III. Points for Reflection
 - A. Jesus' comment "whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it at all" reminds us of our utter dependence upon God.
 - B. Surrendering to Christ means putting everything on the table.
 - C. Can Camels go through an eye of a needle? No, they can't.
 - D. God is the God of the impossible.