

Chapter 10

¹From there Jesus set out and came into the regions of Judea and those beyond the Jordan. Crowds again gathered to him, and he was teaching them as usual. ²Then pharisees approached and were questioning him, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce a woman?” They did this to test him.

³But he answered them, “What did Moses command you to do?”

⁴They answered, “Moses allowed a written certificate for divorce.”

⁵But Jesus answered them, “It was because of your hard hearts that he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of Creation God made them male and female. ⁷For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother ⁸and the two will become one flesh. So, they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹Therefore, let no one divide what God has united.”

¹⁰When they were again in a home, the disciples questioned him about this. ¹¹He told them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against his ex-wife. ¹²And if a wife divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.”

¹³Parents were bringing children to Jesus so that he might touch them, but the disciples scolded them. ¹⁴Jesus was indignant when he saw this happening and said to them, “Allow the children to come to me. Do not hinder them. For the Kingdom of God is made up of people like these children. ¹⁵I tell you beyond a doubt that whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God as a child receives it, will never enter it.” ¹⁶Then he took them into his arms and was blessing them as he laid his hands on them.

¹⁷As he was setting out on the journey, a man ran up to him, knelt down, and questioned him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸But Jesus replied, “Why do you say I am good? No one is good except one - God. ¹⁹You know the commandments: Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give a false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.”

²⁰But the man replied, “Teacher, I have been careful to obey all these commandments from my youth.”

²¹After considering what he said, Jesus felt a love for him and said, “You lack one thing. Go. Sell whatever you have and give it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me.”

²²But the man was shocked by this statement and went away sorrowful, for he owned much property.

²³Jesus looked around and then spoke to his disciples, “It is very difficult for those with

wealth to enter the Kingdom of God.”

²⁴The disciples were amazed by what he said, but Jesus again responded, “Children, how difficult it is to enter the Kingdom of God. ²⁵It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God.”

²⁶But they were even more shocked and said to themselves, “Then who can be saved?”

²⁷Looking at them, Jesus said, “With men – impossible! But not with God. All things are possible with God.”

²⁸Peter began to say to him, “Look, we left everything to follow you.”

²⁹Jesus said, “Know this with certainty, no one who has left behind a house, or brothers, or sisters, or a mother, or a father, or children, or fields because of me and the Good News ³⁰will fail to receive in this present time a hundred times as many houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and fields, along with persecutions. And in the coming age, eternal life. ³¹But, many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.”

³²Now they were on the way up to Jerusalem. Jesus was leading the way, and they were amazed, but others who followed were afraid. He again took the Twelve aside and was telling them about the things that were about to happen to him. ³³“Pay attention! We are going up to Jerusalem and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and scribes. They will condemn him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴And they will mock him, and spit on him, and scourge him and kill him. Yet after three days he will rise up.”

³⁵Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached him and said, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask you.”

³⁶He said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?”

³⁷They replied, “Allow one of us to sit on your right side and one of us to sit on your left side in your glory.”

³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

³⁹They replied, “We are able.”

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup that I drink and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with. ⁴⁰But, to sit on my right or on my left is not mine to grant. They are for those for whom they have been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten other disciples heard this, they were resentful of James and John. ⁴²So, Jesus summoned them and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in high positions wield power over them. ⁴³But

it is not like this among you. Rather, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. ⁴⁴And whoever wants to be first among you must be a slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many.”

⁴⁶Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus) was sitting by the road. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth he began to cry out, “Son of David, Jesus, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸Many were rebuking him to be quiet. But he kept crying out even more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁹Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.”

So, they called the blind man, saying, “Take heart. Get up. He is calling you.” ⁵⁰So, he threw off his coat, spang up, and came to Jesus.

⁵¹Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?”

The blind man said to him, “Rabbi, I want to see.”

⁵²Jesus replied, “Depart. Your faith has healed you.”

Instantly he could see, and he followed Jesus on the way.”