

What The Millionaire Cannot Buy

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

In our world the rich folks can buy almost anything that they want. Their money lets them go places, and do things, that people like you and me can only dream about. Many times they can even buy "justice", but there are some things that even the richest people cannot buy. The most important is the salvation of God. **Ephesians 2:8**, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." While good works are important, they can not save anyone, no matter how many a person may have. We are saved to serve, not saved by serving. Jesus told us that the poor are always with us and we know that this is true. He loves everyone and made the way of salvation so that all of the people have the same opportunity. Being saved doesn't depend on how much of this world you own, or how many good deeds that you have done. To be saved requires that a person believe the gospel, trust in Jesus, and obey

the word of God.

When we believe the gospel there is an understanding of our true condition. It becomes clear that we are lost and apart from God. Then comes the question, "What shall I do?" People usually try to stop bad habits and do what they picture as being the "right thing." That is a good thing to do, but it is like putting a coat of whitewash on something. The only way to be clean in the eyes of God is to believe his word, repent of sin, and do as God commands.

Since cleaning up our act doesn't make us right with God, what does? Letting go of self and trusting the blood of Jesus. He gave himself for our sins that we might be saved. **John 3:16**, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." We cannot work, give, or buy our way to salvation - it comes from God. It is free, a gift of God's grace through his son Jesus.

God said in **Isaiah 55:7-9**, "Let the wicked forsake his way,

and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." God in His wisdom has made a way for everyone that doesn't depend on wealth, works, or anything that man thinks is important. Faith in him, faith to believe, faith to live, and faith to serve God throughout life.

Obedying God. It isn't enough to know what God has said, it is required to do what he has said. Quoting scripture is good, but living according to the word of God is better. Sometimes a person is all wrapped up in trying to act religious, quote scripture, and make himself feel good by his works. More important is to trust God and to walk with him each day. If a person is a millionaire he still has to follow the same plan as the poor man. Praise God for his mercy

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FOOD, SHELTER, AND CLOTHING—ALL FROM THE GOAT!

IN BIBLICAL TIMES, THE GOAT WAS PROBABLY THE MOST PRIZED ANIMAL OF ALL CATTLE, ESPECIALLY IN THE ROCKY HILLS OF JUDEA, WHERE VEGETATION WAS SCARCE—THE GOAT COULD THRIVE IN SPARSE AREAS LIKE THIS, WHERE OTHER ANIMALS WOULD FAIL! AS A VERY IMPORTANT ITEM IN THE PEOPLE'S ECONOMY, THE GOATS HAIR WAS SPUN INTO FABRICS FOR CLOTHING AND WOVEN INTO STURDY STRIPS TO MAKE TENTS IN WHICH THEY LIVED. THE DURABLE GOATSKIN MADE A FINE LEATHER. INDEED, THE FAMED LEATHER OF MOROCCO, TO THIS DAY, IS MADE FROM GOATSKIN! AND FOR FOOD—GOAT'S MILK, SOURED AND COOL, WAS ALWAYS THE KIND OF LUXURY ONE OFFERED TO HONORED GUESTS, IN FACT, IT STILL IS! MILKING A GOAT WAS ALWAYS DONE DIRECTLY FROM THE REAR AND THIS METHOD IS STILL USED IN ASIA MINOR AND NORTH AFRICA TODAY,....



... WHEN THE PATRIARCHS, SUCH AS ABRAHAM AND JACOB, SPOKE OF THE FATNESS OF THEIR HERDS, ALTHOUGH THEY ALSO HAD SHEEP, CAMELS, AND ASSES, YOU CAN BE SURE THEIR HERDS NUMBERED MANY MORE GOATS THAN ANY OTHER ANIMAL!

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