

Luke 18:18-43 Eternal Life and Faith

Yeshua was asked this question by a certain wealthy ruler, “**What shall I do to inherit eternal life?**” Yeshua’s response to the ruler came from the Law of YeHoVaH.

Contrary to popular teaching, **the subject of eternal life did not originate in the New Testament but** was a subject of concern prior to the advent of Yeshua.

Eternal life, life eternal, and everlasting life became synonymous with salvation by New Testament writers and Believers.

- Is Yeshua’s answer to the rich ruler the same as He would give today?
- **Is keeping the Law of YeHoVaH essential for eternal life today?**
- Does being under grace void out YeHoVaH’s Law for Believers in Messiah?

Lk 18:18 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

Inherit – 2816 κληρονομέω kleronomeo {klay-ron-om-eh'-o}

Meaning: 1) to receive a lot, receive by lot 1a) esp. to receive a part of an inheritance, receive as an inheritance, obtain by right of inheritance 1b) to be an heir, to inherit 2) to receive the portion assigned to one, receive an allotted portion, receive as one's own or as a possession 3) to become partaker of, to obtain

Usage: AV - inherit 15, be heir 2, obtain by inheritance 1; 18

Yeshua was asked a question about **how to inherit eternal life**.

An inheritance is not something you earn; you are born into it. However, one can reject their inheritance or be disinherited.

This is the second time Yeshua is asked this question in Luke. The first time is in Chapter 10.

Lk 10:25 And, behold, a certain **lawyer** stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

The first time, it was asked by a certain **lawyer** to tempt Yeshua. In this passage, in Chapter 18, it seems to be asked for a genuine response.

In both cases, Yeshua’s answer referenced The Law/Commandments.

In theological circles, a doctrine is built on two or more witnesses or supporting passages in the Bible. In some theological circles, one statement is enough to build a doctrine.

However, based on Scripture, a word is established by two or more witness.

In both cases, in Chapter 10 and here in Chapter 18, Yeshua’s answer is the same. Yeshua responded in both instances referring to YeHoVaH’s Law as the means by which eternal life is sustained.

Point to remember, in neither case was the question asked about **how to get saved!**

Eternal Life in the Greek is aionios zoe.

Eternal - 166 αἰώνιος aionios {ahee-o'-nee-os}

Meaning: 1) without beginning and end, that which always has been and always will be 2) without beginning 3) without end, never to cease, everlasting

Usage: AV - eternal 42, everlasting 25, the world began + 5550 2, since the world began + 5550 1, for ever 1; 71

Life – 2222 ζωή zoe {dzo-ay'}

Meaning: 1) life 1a) the state of one who is possessed of vitality or is animate 1b) every living soul 2) life 2a) of the absolute fullness of life, both essential and ethical, which belongs to God, and through him both to the hypostatic "logos" and to Christ in whom the "logos" put on human nature

Usage: AV - life 133, lifetime 1; 134

Yeshua did not only come to save us from sin, but also to show us how to live, and to give us life abundantly.

In the Greek, life abundant is zoe perissos.

As described in John 10:10

Jn 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have **life**, and that they might have *it* more **abundantly**.

Eternal life is a way of life. From the moment one comes into the faith, to living out that faith, until the end.

Mt 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

The Question the ruler asked: what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

Lk 18:18 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

Lk 18:19 And Yeshua said unto him, Why callest thou me good? none *is* good, save one, *that is*, God.

The Answer Yeshua gave him:

Lk 18:20 **Thou knowest the commandments**, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother.

In Luke 10, the question was identical, but was asked by a lawyer.

The Question:

Lk 10:25 And, behold, a certain **lawyer** stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, **what shall I do to inherit eternal life?**

The Answer:

Lk 10:26 He said unto him, **What is written in the law? how readest thou?**

The two questions were identical. And, in both events, Yeshua's response was connected to the Law of YeHoVaH.

The ruler's response, to Yeshua's reference to the Law, was that he had kept the Law since his youth.

But based on Yeshua's response to his response, it seemed the ruler trusted in his wealth more than he trusted in YeHoVaH.

Lk 18:21 And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up.

Lk 18:22 Now when Yeshua heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.

Lk 18:23 And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich.

The rich man trusted more in his material goods than he trusted in God. He failed to realize Who provided his goods.

Lk 18:24 And when Yeshua saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have **riches** enter into the kingdom of God!

Riches – 5536 χρῆμα chrema {khray'-mah}

Meaning: 1) a thing, a matter, affair, event, business 1a) spec. money, riches

Usage: AV - money 4, riches 3, 7

Lk 18:25 For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

A camel, as large as it is, under no natural circumstance can go through the eye of a needle as small as it is.

Inheriting eternal life is not a natural, but a supernatural phenomenon.

The people who heard Yeshua's response questioned one's ability to be saved.

Lk 18:26 And they that heard *it* said, Who then can be saved?

Salvation cannot be earned.

Salvation is a supernatural occurrence only made possible through YeHoVaH.

Lk 18:27 And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.

Based on all that had been said, Peter equates the conversation to leaving behind everything and following Yeshua.

Lk 18:28 Then Peter said, Lo, we have left all, and followed thee.

In Matthew, Peter said they had forsaken all.

Mt 19:27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?

Mt 19:28 And Yeshua said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Mt 19:29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

In Mark, Yeshua states that the hundredfold more would come with persecution.

Mk 10:28 Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee.

Mk 10:29 And Yeshua answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's,

Mk 10:30 But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, **with persecutions**; and in the world to come eternal life.

In the first case, where the question was asked, Peter said nothing.

In this case when Yeshua responded to the statement made about wealth, Peter said they have left all.

We know that Peter and his brother owned a fishing business. James and his brother John were business partners. Their wealth, financial status, or their tax returns are not exposed so we don't know how wealthy they were, but the statement about wealth caused Peter to speak up.

We know for sure that Peter had left his wife, mother-in-law, and house. We don't know what all the other Disciples had left.

But Yeshua reassured them that they had much more to gain than what they left or gave up in this life and world. Yeshua said that in the world to come, they had eternal life to look forward to.

Yeshua revealed that had the ruler been willing to give up what he had; he would have gained much more than what he had. And the ruler would have inherited eternal life simply because he listened to Yeshua and followed His Instruction to give up everything and follow Him.

You don't lose by following Yeshua. You get the best of both worlds when you put your faith in YeHoVaH by following Yeshua.

Lk 18:29 And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake,

Lk 18:30 Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Lk 18:31 Then he took *unto him* the twelve, and said unto them, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished.

Lk 18:32 For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spitted on:

Lk 18:33 And they shall scourge *him*, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again.

Lk 18:34 And they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.

They heard plainly because Yeshua did not speak a parable, but they did not understand any of the things He said to them although He had spoken these things earlier in Chapter 9.

Lk 9:43 And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Yeshua did, he said unto his disciples,

Lk 9:44 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men.

Lk 9:45 But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.

In Mark 8:33, He rebuked Peter because He rejected what Yeshua had said.

Mk 8:27 And Yeshua went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

Mk 8:28 And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

Mk 8:29 And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Messiah.

Mk 8:30 And he charged them that they should tell no man of him.

Mk 8:31 And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

Mk 8:32 And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

Mk 8:33 But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

Lk 18:35 And it came to pass, that as he was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging:

Lk 18:36 And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant.

Lk 18:37 And they told him, that Yeshua of Nazareth passeth by.

Lk 18:38 And he cried, saying, Yeshua, *thou* son of David, have mercy on me.

Lk 18:39 And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, *Thou* son of David, have mercy on me.

Lk 18:40 And Yeshua stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and when he was come near, he asked him,

Lk 18:41 Saying, What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight.

The blind man asked for sight. Yeshua's response indicated that by asking Him for sight, the blind man demonstrated he believed Yeshua was able to restore his sight which was an **act of faith** in Yeshua's ability to save or deliver him from the state of blindness.

Lk 18:42 And Yeshua said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee.

Lk 18:43 And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw *it*, gave praise unto God.