

SO YOU SAY YOU'RE A FOLLOWER OF JESUS...
A TEST FOR WOULD-BE & SELF PROCLAIMED FOLLOWERS
AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR TRUE FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST
Matthew 19:27-30

I. UNDERSTAND...TO TRULY FOLLOW JESUS, ONE MUST REPENT AND TRUST IN HIM as evidenced by a choosing Him OVER ALL ELSE (13-27)

A. Review: True followers have first entered His Kingdom through repentance and humble dependent faith in Jesus alone (13-15,18:2-6) as negatively illustrated by the rich young ruler's unwillingness to part with his wealth and then follow Him (16-26)

B., Peter asks Jesus what will the disciples who have given up all to follow Him receive (27, 29)

1. **What the disciples left;** everything (27)

2. **Examples of what one is called to leave;** family and possessions (29)

3. **The only reason one would do so;** for His sake (29b, Mk 10:29b), the gospels sake (Mk 10:29b), the kingdom of God's sake (Lk 18:29b)

II. IF YOU ARE A TRUE FOLLOWER, BE ENCOURAGED THEIR IS GREAT GAIN NOW AND IN ETERNITY FOR FOLLOWING CHRIST: Jesus responds revealing great reward now and in eternity or His disciples and everyone who gave up all to follow Him **(28-30)**

A. Jesus disciples, who gave up all to follow Him, **will receive great glorious future kingdom authority** (28)

B. Everyone else who has repented and trusted in Him, thus suffering loss of their old lives, **will receive much more now and eternal life** (29)

1. **What we receive now:** a new family here, abiding riches in heaven now (29a)

2. **What we will receive;** Eternal life (29b)

C. A maxim from God that explains it all: the first will be last and the last first (30)