

CHAPTER 62

An Important Lesson in Humility

(Matthew 17:22-18:5) It was while they were gathered together in Gal'i-lee that Jesus said to them: “The Son of man is going to be betrayed into men’s hands, 23 and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised up.” And they were very much grieved. 24 After they arrived in Ca-per'na-um, the men collecting the two drachmas tax approached Peter and said: “Does your teacher not pay the two drachmas tax?” 25 He said: “Yes.” However, when he entered the house, Jesus spoke to him first and said: “What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth receive duties or head tax? From their sons or from the strangers?” 26 When he said: “From the strangers,” Jesus said to him: “Really, then, the sons are tax-free. 27 But that we do not cause them to stumble, go to the sea, cast a fishhook, and take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth, you will find a silver coin. Take that and give it to them for me and you.”

18 In that hour the disciples came near to Jesus and said: “Who really is greatest in the Kingdom of the heavens?” 2 So calling a young child to him, he stood him in their midst 3 and said: “Truly I say to you, unless you turn around and become as young children, you will by no means enter into the Kingdom of the heavens. 4 Therefore, whoever will humble himself like this young child is the one who is the greatest in the Kingdom of the heavens; 5 and whoever receives one such young child on the basis of my name receives me also.

(Mark 9:30-37) They departed from there and went through Gal'i-lee, but he did not want anyone to get to know about it. 31 For he was teaching his disciples and telling them: “The Son of man is going to be betrayed into men’s hands, and they will kill him, but despite being killed, he will rise three days later.” 32 However, they did not understand his statement, and they were afraid to question him. 33 And they came into Ca-per'na-um. Now

when he was inside the house, he put the question to them: “What were you arguing about on the road?” 34 They kept silent, for on the road they had been arguing among themselves about who is greater. 35 So he sat down and called the Twelve and said to them: “If anyone wants to be first, he must be last of all and minister of all.” 36 Then he took a young child and stood him in their midst; and putting his arms around him, he said to them: 37 “Whoever receives one of such young children on the basis of my name receives me also; and whoever receives me receives not me only but also Him who sent me.”

(Luke 9:43-48) And they were all astounded at the majestic power of God. While they were all astonished at all the things he was doing, he said to his disciples: 44 “Listen carefully and remember these words, for the Son of man is going to be betrayed into men’s hands.” 45 But they did not understand what he was saying. In fact, it was concealed from them so that they might not grasp it, and they were afraid to question him about this saying. 46 Then a dispute arose among them about which one of them was the greatest. 47 Jesus, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a young child, stood him beside him, 48 and said to them: “Whoever receives this young child on the basis of my name receives me also; and whoever receives me also receives the One who sent me. For the one who conducts himself as a lesser one among all of you is the one who is great.”

Paragraph 1 on Page 148

(Mark 9:30) They departed from there and went through Gal'i-lee, but he did not want anyone to get to know about it.

(Matthew 17:22, 23) It was while they were gathered together in Gal'i-lee that Jesus said to them: “The Son of man is going to be betrayed into men’s hands, 23 and they will kill him, and

on the third day he will be raised up.” And they were very much grieved.

Paragraph 2 on Page 148

(Matthew 16:21, 22) From that time forward, Jesus began explaining to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed, and on the third day be raised up. 22 At this Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying: “Be kind to yourself, Lord; you will not have this happen to you at all.”

(Luke 9:31) These appeared with glory and began talking about his departure, which he was about to fulfill at Jerusalem.

(Matthew 17:23) and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised up.” And they were very much grieved.

Paragraph 3 on Page 148

(Matthew 17:24) After they arrived in Ca·per·na·um, the men collecting the two drachmas tax approached Peter and said: “Does your teacher not pay the two drachmas tax?”

Paragraph 4 on Page 148

(Matthew 17:25, 26) He said: “Yes.” However, when he entered the house, Jesus spoke to him first and said: “What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth receive duties or head tax? From their sons or from the strangers?” 26 When he said: “From the strangers,” Jesus said to him: “Really, then, the sons are tax-free.

Paragraph 5 on Page 148

(Matthew 17:27) But that we do not cause them to stumble, go to the sea, cast a fishhook, and take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth, you will find a silver coin. Take that and give it to them for me and you.”

Paragraph 6 on Page 148

(Mark 9:33) And they came into Ca·per·na·um. Now when he was inside the house, he put the question to them: “What were you arguing about on the road?”

(Matthew 18:1) In that hour the disciples came near to Jesus and said: “Who really is greatest in the Kingdom of the heavens?”

Paragraph 1 on Page 149

(Matthew 18:3-5) and said: “Truly I say to you, unless you turn around and become as young children, you will by no means enter into the Kingdom of the heavens. 4 Therefore, whoever will humble himself like this young child is the one who is the greatest in the Kingdom of the heavens; 5 and whoever receives one such young child on the basis of my name receives me also.

Paragraph 2 on Page 149

(Luke 9:48) and said to them: “Whoever receives this young child on the basis of my name receives me also; and whoever receives me also receives the One who sent me. For the one who conducts himself as a lesser one among all of you is the one who is great.”

◇ On returning to Capernaum, Jesus repeats what important fact, and how do his disciples receive this?

◇ Why is Jesus not under obligation to pay the temple tax, but why does he do so?

◇ What might contribute to the disciples’ concern about position, and how does Jesus correct them?
