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WHEN THE IMPOSSIBLE IS POSSIBLE

By Rev. E. W. Tokley (10 and daily)

"With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible."

I am sorry the young ruler did not stay long enough with Jesus to hear Him make that statement. Perhaps if he had he might not have gone away as he did. His hastening to Jesus seeking eternal life was so unusual, that to read of his sorrowful departure without that for which he came, is most disappointing.

But why the sudden and sad departure? Partly, perhaps, because of THE IMPOS-SIBLE STANDARD OF SPIRITUALITY Jesus had raised. "If thou wilt be perfect," were His words to the ruler, and with them He raised a high spiritual standard. "If thou wilt be perfect," that was giving a new meaning to eternal life. Jesus was offering to him God's best. Just all the young man meant by eternal life we may not know, but it is evident that his heart was not satisfied, nor was he sure of eternity. And Jesus did not overlook the future. He gave him a conditional promise of "treasure in heaven," but He also raised a spiritual standard and called it perfection.

And that is still the scriptural word, and the spiritual standard, that becomes a stumbling block to many. Impossible, is the inner thought, if not the outward or audible word. Of course the perfection is not absolute, but relative. It is a spiritual wholeness consistent with man's finite and limited earthly state. As has so often been said, it is "a perfection of heart, but not of head and hand." Yet with all the explanation and necessary qualification, the standard is high. Purity of heart, perfection of love, and holy living, making us blameless before God, is a high spiritual standard. With man an impossible standard. Yet it is the standard God requires.

Returning to the rich ruler, a second reason for his sudden and sad departure, was THE IMPOSSIBLE STANDARD OF SURREN-DER Jesus demanded: "Go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor,—and come and follow me." That was a sweeping demand, and to the young man, a costly demand. Not even the promise of "treasure in heaven" could influence him to make the surrender. No wonder Jesus said concerning it, "With men this is impossible." It was Christ's call to him to acknowledge God's right and ownership, and his stewardship. It was the Saviour's appeal to him yield himself and his great possessions fully to God, for His use and the blessing of others. But having heard it he went away sorrowful. The price was too great. To him the surrender was impossible.

Christ's standard of surrender is still sweeping and costly. He asks for nothing less than our all, the presenting of ourselves "a living

sacrifice," and the adjusting of all things pertaining to our lives to His perfect will concerning us. And there are many who still consider the price too great. Thus like the young ruler, after having seen the light and faced the cost, they have gone away. If only they had stayed long enough with Jesus to hear Him say, "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible."

Had the young ruler heard those words from the lips of Christ, the record concerning him might not have ended so suddenly, and so sadly. He would have at least discovered that the perfection Christ offered, and the surrender He demanded, while impossible with men, were possible with God.

But have you tarried long enough with Him to hear those assuring words? Or, having faced the spiritual standard, and the consecration demanded to experience it, are you turning away saying, impossible? Tarry with Him a while longer, lest going away hastily you miss His all important word to you: "With God all things are possible."

"All things are possible to him
That can in Jesu's name believe;
Lord, I no more Thy truth blaspheme,
Thy truth I lovingly receive,
I can, I do believe in Thee!
All things are possible to me.

"The most impossible of all
Is, that I ere from sin should cease;
Yet shall it be, I know it shall,
Jesus, I trust Thy faithfulness!
If nothing is too hard for Thee,
All things are possible to me."

A LETTER TO HIGHWAY SUBSCRIBERS

Dear Christian Friends:

We appreciate your help in subscribing to The King's Highway in past years. We are grateful too that you paid your renewals so promptly as the years passed. But for some reason unknown to the editor or business manager a great many of our subscribers have allowed their subscriptions to go unpaid, until now the aggregate sum amounts to several thousand dollars. Last year our editor paid out for printing, etc., over five hundred dollars more than he received from our subscribers. Now, my friends, you can see that the King's Highway is heading for bankruptcy, unless YOU, and I mean you, pay up your arrears. For several months past we have been making our appeals for renewals, and we want to say Thank You to

a goodly number which have responded, and paid up.

But there are still many whom we feel did not see our appeals for help for there are still several hundreds in arrears whom we have not heard from. I am putting this letter on the front page of The Highway hoping every subscriber will see it. Friends, we are not asking for a donation or a free gift, but we are asking you to just pay an honest debt, which every honest person will do, if he or she is able. Now the amount you owe to the Lord's cause, The King's Highway, is not large—just a few dollars. But if you are too poor and can't pay, write and tell us, and we will not ask you again. Neither will we stop sending your Highway if you want it. And if you did not subscribe for the paper and do not want it, please let us know and we will stop sending it, and we won't ask you to pay for what you didn't order. But to all others we must say we feel very strongly that you ought to pay this honest debt of only a few dollars each, which you owe to the Lord.

And as God's servant and the servant of our Alliance serving in this capacity, we feel just as strongly that we must do our best to collect this money, and thus save our paper, this messenger of full salvation so it may continue to carry its message of life and truth to the thousands who need it. Let us hear from you at once, my friend. I feel sure you will enjoy Christmas much better if you know that this little debt is paid, and you then can say from your heart, Thanks be to God for His unspeakable Gift.

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THE OLD FASHIONED MINISTER

The old-fashioned type of minister is fast passing. The olden type was that of a man with a message. He was a preacher, a spokesman, an ambassador. He urged men to repentance for sin, to belief in the mediatorial work of Christ, to holiness of life. He was a witness. His message was the Word, his plea the mercy of God in Christ, his warning the wrath of God against sin. A statement from the Word was the end of all controversy. Under such a ministry men both trembled and believed.—Selected.