

***About That Claim Jesus Made  
That the First Will Be Last***

Mark 10:23-34

Jesus is a realist. You and I have a hard time with that.

- Meritocracy
- Losing track
- Reality
- Competence

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**Mark 10:23-34 (NIV)**

<sup>23</sup>Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

<sup>24</sup>The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is [e] to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

<sup>26</sup>The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

<sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

<sup>28</sup>Then Peter spoke up, “We have left everything to follow you!”

<sup>29</sup>“Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel <sup>30</sup>will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup>But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

<sup>32</sup>They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. <sup>33</sup>“We are going up to Jerusalem,” he said, “and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, <sup>34</sup>who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise.”