

Living the Jesus Paradoxes: 'Last is First'

²⁸Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!"

²⁹"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 ³⁰will 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.

³¹**But many who are first will be last, and the last first."** (Mark 10:28-31)

- ▶ Life with God would not make _sense_ without an _eternal_ perspective

*"... this present age ... eternal life."
(Mark 10:30)*

- o The _present_ age ...
- o The age to _come_ ...

¹⁷For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. (II Corinthians 4:17,18)

- ▶ Sacrifice for God would not be _joyful_ without an __abundance_ perspective

*"... a hundred times as much in this present age"
(Mark 10:30)*

o What sacrifice?

o Do the math!

²⁹ “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 ³⁰will 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. (Mark 10:29,30)

▶ **Jesus is . . .**

A Parable of Grace . . . Matthew 20:1-16

¹³“But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius?’ ¹⁴Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

¹⁶“**So the last will be first, and the first will be last.**”

(Matthew 20:13-16)