## **Bible Quiz**

## It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven

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Question: It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven

Cultural Background: The "eye of the needle" is actually a small gate on the wall of Jerusalem, called the "eye of the needle". When the gate is closed, there is only a thin gate, and the camel has to unload all its loads to pass through it, even if it kneels down before it can barely pass. This explanation emphasizes the need to lay down the burdens that one carries and humble oneself in order to enter the kingdom of heaven first.

The metaphor of a camel passing through the eye of a needle is used to emphasize the difficulty of the rich entering the kingdom of heaven. Being rich is not a sin in itself, but wealth can bring some challenges and temptations. For example, wealthy people tend to be dependent on their wealth and feel that they can rely on material things to solve their problems rather than relying on God. Jesus emphasized that purity of heart and total trust in God are more important than material possessions.

The key to entering the kingdom of heaven is to sincerely seek God in your heart. When people have too much material possessions, they may develop pride, covet the world, or become overly dependent on possessions and neglect faith and obedience to God. Therefore, Jesus warned that wealth can easily become a stumbling block to entering the kingdom of heaven.

Man cannot be saved on his own, and "the camel through the eye of a needle" is an extreme metaphor that suggests that human efforts cannot enter the kingdom of heaven at all. Only God can make this

"impossible" possible (Matthew 19:26, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.") )  $_{\circ}$  This shows that salvation does not come from human works or efforts, but from the grace of God.

Jesus said to a rich young man, "Sell what you have and give to the poor, and there will be treasure in heaven; Then come, follow me." This reminds us that the true value of spiritual life is far greater than earthly wealth.

Spiritual wealth (faith, love, obedience to God) is eternal. Only by relying on God by faith and being willing to lay down the burdens of this world can we truly enter the kingdom of heaven.

The contradiction between faith and the ease of entering the Kingdom of Heaven is often discussed. While justification by faith is central to the salvation of believers,

Paul emphasizes in Romans, "A man who believes in his heart is justified; confess with your mouth, and you will be saved." This shows that salvation is possible if you truly trust Jesus.

Even after being saved, believers still need to make sustained efforts in their daily lives to meet God's standards.

The balance between the two is to emphasize two important aspects of the life of faith: receiving God's grace and actively pursuing holiness.

Believers are both thankful for God's grace and constantly striving in their faith life to achieve true spiritual growth.