

## Matthew 10:42

*And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.*

Let's say you are stuck in the desert, and it's 120 degrees outside in the shade. You have been out there for hours, and your mouth is as dry as the dirt, and all you can think is that you are going to die, because you have a thirst, that if not satisfied, will kill you, literally.

Now say you find a cup in the desert, which looks dirty, cracked and chipped, but in order for it to be full, you have to tell it what you want it to be full of. Then you notice that there is a piece of paper next to the dirty, cracked, chipped cup that has written on it, "Say **“Water”** or **“Gold”**", *whatever thou speakest, shall reveal your soul.*" Which one would you say?

Now before you answer, just think about it. A cup full of solid gold would weigh a lot, and would be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, whereas a cup full of water would cost all of 2 cents. Your answer would determine what is most important to you, either your life or riches. Now you could say the gold and plan on buying water, but if that were the case, by the time you got close to where water was that you could buy, you would die, because you chose riches instead of life.

But the same is true with the world. They are dying spiritually and are dry bones, needing the refreshment of the Word of God, yet it chooses riches instead of eternal life. And we are those dirty, chipped, cracked cups and we come to them filled with the Holy Spirit, and the water of the Word, yet they still choose riches, because they don't want to give it up for eternal life.

It reminds me of a story in the bible of Jesus and a man.

† **Mark 10:17-22** *Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Do not defraud,' 'Honor your father and your mother.' " And he answered and said to Him, "Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth." Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "**One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.**" But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.*

I love this part where it says that "**Jesus, looking at him, loved him.**" I read this and think that Jesus knew this young man was sincere in his answer, and even his question of "**what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?**" In Jesus' love for this man He tells him straight out, "**one thing**

*you lack.*” He did not say, okay, “Well, you follow six out of the ten commandments, but you fall short on the other four.” No, what Jesus says to him is that *“one thing you lack”* and if you think about it, it was the first commandment that this man lacked, not his love for money, but that because *“he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions”* and he put his possessions before God and made it his god.

† **Deuteronomy 6:5** *You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.*

So it is with the world, it wants heaven but doesn't want God or Jesus to be a part of it. They want their stuff to be their heaven. So even though they have us, dirty, chipped and cracked vessels (cups) offering them eternal life through Jesus Christ, they prefer possessions here on earth instead of eternal life with Jesus in Heaven.

† **Mark 8:36-38** *For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.*