

**Mark 10:17-31****The Rich and the Kingdom of God**

<sup>17</sup> As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>18</sup> “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’”

<sup>20</sup> “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

<sup>21</sup> Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

<sup>22</sup> At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

<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 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.”

NIV

*The United Benefice of Ashwater, Beaworthy, Black Torrington,  
Clawton, Halwill, Highampton and Tetcott*

**Sunday 10th October 2021**

19th Sunday after Trinity

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

9.30 am Morning Service, Ashwater

11.00 am Morning Service, Halwill

11.00 am Holy Communion—Black Torrington

11.00 am Café Style Service—Clawton

6.30 pm BCP Evensong—Beaworthy



**Readings**

Amos 5: 6-7

Hebrews 4: 12-16

Mark 10: 17-31

**Collect**

Faithful Lord,

whose steadfast love never ceases  
and whose mercies never come to an end:

grant us the grace to trust you  
and to receive the gifts of your love,

new every morning,

in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Interim Priest-in-Charge (part time)**

Revd Stephen Skinner

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**The Mission Community:** for all who live and work in our Mission Community

**All who are mourning** the death of a loved one



**Rest in peace** all who have recently died

**Those who are ill** or in any kind of need and those who are vulnerable due to underlying health conditions, including Bryan Hancock, Grace Spelman, Mavis Watson, Malcolm and Judith Lusted, Jenny Hyslop, Brian Colebrook-Clark, Tim Kirk, Margaret Grabham

**For our Benefice Schools,** for all staff, pupils and teachers.

**All volunteers in churches** across Devon, we pray that they would receive strength and energy as they continue to serve your church, but also time to rest and to draw close to you. Inspire us all to serve others.

**The Chaplaincy teams** in our schools and universities, that God would give them energy and boldness as they guide and disciple young people.

**Children and Families workers** in churches across Devon. We thank God for the vital work they do with our young people and pray that God would give them strength and enthusiasm.

**Holsworthy Market Chaplaincy** team, as they work with the farming community in difficult times. Give them the strength to continue with this vital work.

**All on our prayer chain,** for faithfully praying daily for all the needs of our communities.

**Dates for your diary**

<b>Tuesday 12th October</b>	4.15 pm	Hand Bell Ringing Black Torrington Church
<b>Wednesday 13th October</b>	10.00 am	Morning Prayer Black Torrington Church
<b>Thursday 14th October</b>	7.30 pm	Deanery Synod Meeting
Please note <b>NO COMPLINE</b> this week		
<b>Sunday 17th October</b>	9.30 am	Holy Communion Ashwater Church
	11.00 am	Holy Communion Beaworthy Church
	11.00 am	Morning Service Black Torrington Church

**Thought for Sunday 10th October 2021**

**Trinity 19**

The well known story of the 'Rich Man' who is also described by the other Gospel writers as being young and also as a 'Ruler' guides our thought or rather thoughts this week.

Always a tricky subject when we come to think about our possessions and how they, or rather our love for them can affect our relationship with God.

Jesus, we may think was harsh with the young man, 'give everything to the poor' and 'give all your possessions away' then says Jesus 'Follow me'.

How would we react in a situation like that? For although we may not all be rich in that extreme but we all have material things we treasure. In reality of course if we all gave everything away, we have to ask ourselves, would it really improve the world situation?

I believe the point Jesus was making so emphatically here was that we should always put our relationship with God and our love for him above everything else.

Riches, possessions and even our personal relationships can come in-between or at least hinder that loving relationship we have with our Heavenly Father.

The disciples were astounded at this teaching Jesus gave at this point, teaching which included the comparison of a rich man's likelihood of entering the kingdom with the impossibility of a camel going through the eye of a needle. A dramatic and extreme description that we are all familiar with I'm sure.

We can gain much comfort in the fact that Jesus told them, his disciples, that is, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.'

We cannot save ourselves, it is the God who gave up his only Son to die on the Cross for us and our redemption, who invites us to follow him and at the same

Many blessings

**Jim**