

Rich Young Ruler Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Does the Rich Young Ruler seem like a genuine seeker? How do his questions differ from those of the Pharisees?

What evidence do we have that he was indeed a devout Jew?

Why would he be seeking Jesus answers to his questions?

How does the religion of the Pharisees differ from God's original plan for the Jews?

Is there a general principle involved in what happened to them?

How does Jesus deal with the rich ruler?

Why do you think Jesus made it so hard for this young man?

Would it have been enough for him to just give a large donation? Even his entire wealth?

Why did Jesus ask him to become a follower?

Have you had moments like that where God is asking for something you are not sure you want to do?

Is the matter finished after an initial negative reply or does God keep up the invitation?

This young man did not come secretly like Nicodemus but publicly. What effect would the encounter have on bystanders?

Is it possible that he might have become a follower at some time?

Might there have been others like him who were among the converts after the resurrection and Pentecost?