

Theme: Jesus is the Messianic King Who came to suffer, be rejected, die, and be raised so that He might save us from our sin.

I. Intro - Continental Divide

- A. Our trip out West - hitting the continental divide
- B. Everything changes - all water flows in a different direction on each side
- C. Mark 8:27-38 - continental divide in Mark's Gospel
- D. The two sections of the Gospel
 - 1. Mark 1:1-8:30 - Who is Jesus? - The King!
 - 2. Mark 8:31-end - Why did Jesus come? - To Die!
- E. 8:31 - 10:52 - journey to Jerusalem - to die!
 - 1. The whole section is on a journey which we eventually discover is to Jerusalem
 - 2. Jesus announces His impending death 3 times - Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34

II. A Shocking Revelation!

- A. Jesus boldly teaches - on the Son of Man???

He then began to teach them that **the Son of Man** must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this. Mark 8:31-32

 - 1. Jesus is teaching after Peter's confession
 - a. The disciples know Jesus is the Messianic King!
 - b. They expect He will take power, crush God's enemies, and reign in power!
 - 2. Jesus calls Himself the Son of Man, not Messiah
 - 3. After Hours - Importance of Son of Man

4. Messiah/Christ has too many misconceptions

- a. The common conception of Conquering King

How fine is the King, the Messiah, who will arise from those of the house of Judah! He girds his loins and goes forth and sets up the ranks of battle against his enemies and kills the kings together with their commanders and no king and commander can stand before him. He reddens the mountains with the blood of their slain and his garments are dipped in blood. - Targum Yerushalmi on Genesis 49:11
 - b. This was what almost everyone expected of the Messiah/Christ - He would destroy Rome and all enemies of God!
 - c. No wonder Jesus did not like to use this title!
- B. Jesus boldly teaches - He must suffer and die!
- He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must **suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law**, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this. Mark 8:31-32
- 1. Jesus teaches that He must suffer and be rejected
 - a. Rather than conquering He will suffer many things!
 - b. Rather than being crowned, He will be rejected!
 - c. He will not be rejected by the Romans but by the Sanhedrin - elders, chief priests, teachers of the law
 - d. Just as He has been rejected in Galilee, so He will be tested and rejected in Jerusalem!
 - 1. Rejected (ἀποδοκιμάζω) - regard as unworthy & reject; reject as counterfeit
 - 2. Often used in quoting of Psalm 118:22

Haven't you read this scripture: "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; Mark 12:10

As you come to him, the living Stone — rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him...⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,” 1 Peter 2:4, 7

3. No wonder Peter brought up the rejection of Jesus by men but His exaltation by the Father!
2. Jesus teaches that He must be put to death!
 - a. He won't just suffer - He will be put to death!
 - b. He won't crush others; He will be crushed!
 - c. The hills won't run red with the blood of others; Golgotha will run red with His blood!
3. Jesus teaches that He will rise again from the dead!
 - a. He will die - but He will live again!
 - b. He will rule and reign - through the resurrection!
 - c. Glory will be His - but only after the cross!
 - d. But the disciples seem to have gone deaf before this point! All they seem to hear is He must die!
4. Jesus spoke boldly and plainly that He must die first
 - a. This was no parable - He spoke boldly and plainly (παρρησία)
 - b. The only time this word is used in the synoptic Gospels - to speak boldly and plainly
 - c. There was no to misunderstand what He was saying!
5. Jesus said this MUST happen
 - a. This was not a possibility, it was a necessity!
 - b. δεῖ - it is necessary; it must happen

- c. Ultimately, Jesus did not die because of an accident but rather in fulfillment of God's will as revealed in the Old Testament - the Messiah had to die and then be raised.
- d. We will look at this more next week.

III. A Shocking Exchange!

A. Peter rebukes Jesus for saying this!

He spoke plainly about this, and **Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.**³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.” Mark 8:32-33

1. Peter thinks he understands the Messiah's future better than Jesus does!
2. Peter actually rebukes Jesus - a strong word often used to silence demons!
3. The disciple has forgotten his place and thinks he knows better than the Master!
4. This is because of Peter's preconceived ideas about the Messiah.
 - a. A study of Americans and Mexicans where a photo of a baseball player was flashed to one eye and a photo of a bullfighter to the other. The Americans only saw a baseball player and the Mexicans only saw a bull-fighter!
 - b. Often, we see what we expect to see, not reality!
 - c. This is happening to Peter - his preconceptions about what it meant to be Messiah are overwhelming his knowledge that Jesus actually is the Messiah - and has said He must suffer and die!
5. A free tip - NEVER correct or rebuke Jesus!

B. Jesus rebukes Satan - who is speaking through Peter!

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." Mark 8:33

1. Jesus looks at the other disciples - why?
 - a. They probably thought the same thing as Peter!
 - b. Perhaps the disciples were not sure and Jesus wants to prevent any misunderstanding.
2. Jesus rebukes Peter and speaks to Satan!
 - a. Rebuke - the same word as for Peter's actions!
 - b. But He speaks to Satan, "Get behind me!"
 - c. Peter is not just mistaken - he has been duped and used by Satan!
 - d. Jesus recognizes this as the same temptation in the wilderness - the crown without the cross, glory without suffering!
 - e. He resolutely refuses the Satanic temptation and sets His face to obey His Father, even if it means suffering and death.
3. This Satanic way is "the things of men"
 - a. Satan's way does not seem like a horror movie - it makes perfect sense to fallen humans!
 - b. Surely God would not want His Son, the Messianic King, to suffer at the hands of wicked man! Surely He would not want Him to die!
 - c. The way of the cross is a foolish stumbling block to fallen humans - but it is God's way!

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God... ²² Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 1 Cor. 1:18, 22-24

4. Humans are always tempted to a theology of glory, but only a theology of the cross can repair and restore the cosmic treason of sin!
5. As we will see in Mark 8:34ff, the cross is the way for disciples as well as our Master!

IV. Applying the Word

- A. Do I see that even true believers can have partial sight?
 1. Remember the living parable to the healing of the blind man in two stages
 2. Last time we saw that people have partial sight by knowing Jesus is great and important - but they still don't see He is the Unique Son of God.
 3. But the same structure is true for Peter - and for us!
 4. He knew that Jesus is the Messiah/Christ, but he did not understand what that meant!
 5. Scripture is replete with examples of true followers of God misunderstanding what God was doing!
 6. This does not call for compromise on God's revealed will in the Scripture, but it does call for humility in our relationships with others.
- B. Do I see the deepest need of humanity?
 1. Jews thought they needed political liberation - so they wanted a political-military Messiah

2. Many today want various types of economic or political liberation as well - all forms of Marxism
3. Many see our greatest needs as physical - disease, food, shelter
4. These things are important - but they are all far less important than our deepest need of deliverance from sin!
5. Jesus is not the King Who came to conquer militarily, deliver politically, or merely rescue us from physical problems - He is the King who came to suffer and die to conquer sin!
6. This is basic but so easily forgotten! And if we forget this we will desire a King who is primarily devoted to those things rather than to delivering us from our real enemy of sin!
7. Jesus did feed the hungry and heal the sick - but He is clear that this was secondary, not primary. The reason He came was to give Himself as a ransom for sin!
For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45
8. The church can, should, and must work to alleviate all forms of suffering and injustice - but only as the overflow of the Gospel and forgiveness of sins!
9. When the church becomes captive to the "social Gospel" it becomes unfaithful to God and ultimately of little to no use to the world.
10. But if our hearts are captured by the King Who came to die to rescue us from sin and eternal death we will be propelled to compassionately proclaim the Gospel to everyone and to minister to secondary needs as well.

C. The Table of Deliverance

1. Here we remember our deepest need - and Jesus' great deliverance for us!
2. "All shall be done, but it may be harder than you think." – Aslan (when asked if he will save Edmund from the Witch).
3. Come remember - and give thanks!

King's Cross

Mark 8:31-33
 October 22, 2023
 Communion
 Hebrews 13:20-21

Teaching keywords: Christology; Biblical characters; atonement; cross; salvation and deliverance

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, ²¹ equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:20-21

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." Mark 8:31-33