

Mark 8:30 - 10:52

SESSION 4: THE CROSS

(Note that "Son of Man" is Jesus' way of referring to himself.)

1. Jesus directly predicts his own death and resurrection three times (Mark 8:31, 9:31 & 10:33-34).

① Mark 8:31 (ESV)

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again.

② Mark 9:31 (ESV)

... for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

③ Mark 10:33-34 (ESV)

... saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days, he will rise."

Here, Jesus is saying that he has to suffer many things [1][3], be rejected and delivered to the hands of men and die [1][2][3], and rise after three days [1][2][3].

2. In Mark 8:31 Jesus said he must die. The reason why he has to do so is mentioned in Mark 10:45.

Mark 10:45 (ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

3. According to Mark 8:34, Jesus says following him would mean denying yourself and taking up the cross.

Mark 8:34 (ESV)

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Plainly, "taking up the cross" does not mean much sense in a modern context, but this can be understood from John 19:16-17, where it is mentioned that Jesus had to take the cross he eventually is to be crucified on to Golgotha, the place where he was to be crucified. From here it can be understood that what Jesus meant by taking up the cross is to die by all the wrongdoings oneself has done in addition to taking up Jesus' death as well.

4. Each time Jesus predicts his own death and resurrection, Mark records the disciples' response — or lack of it. (See Mark 8:32-33, 9:33-35; 10:35-45)

(a) In Mark 8:32-33, Peter immediately takes Jesus aside and rebuked him, only for Jesus to rebuke him afterward. This comes before Jesus telling the crowd with him the meaning of following him.

(b) Mark 9:33-35 mentions the disciples arguing with one another about who was the greatest. This comes in after Jesus mentions his eventual crucifixion and resurrection the second time.

(c) Mark 10:35-45 is properly titled "The Request of James and John" (ESV), where James and John requested for one of them to be seated at each side in his glory. It is noted later in Mark 10:40 that it is not Jesus who decides this, adding that it is for those for whom it has been prepared.

5. In Mark 8:29 Peter recognizes that Jesus is the Christ, God's only chosen King. In taking Jesus aside and rebuking him (Mark 8:32), Peter is not treating Jesus as God's King.

* (Illustration may be needed to explain the matter)

(Q) How do you think you have treated Jesus?

How would you feel about Jesus being King in every area of your life?

CHAPTER VIII

(42) Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection (Mark 8:31-9:1)

CHAPTER IX

(43) The Transfiguration (Mark 9:2-13)

(44) Jesus Heals a Boy with an Unclean Spirit (Mark 9:14-29)

(45) Jesus Again Foretells Death, Resurrection (Mark 9:30-32)

(46) Who Is The Greatest? (Mark 9:33-34)

(47) Anyone Not Against Us Is for Us (Mark 9:38-41)

(48) Temptations to Sin (Mark 9:42-50)

CHAPTER X

(49) Teaching About Divorce (Mark 10:1-12)

(50) Let the Children Come to Me (Mark 10:13-16)

(51) The Rich Young Man (Mark 10:17-31)

(52) Jesus Foretells His Death a Third Time (Mark 10:32-34)

(53) The Request of James and John (Mark 10:35-45)

(54) Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)

IF JESUS AIN'T
THE LORD OF YOUR
LIFE, HE AIN'T THE
LORD AT ALL!