

WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



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Mark 8:27-9:1

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27 And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” **28** And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” **29** And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” **30** And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

31 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. **32** And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. **33** But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

34 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. **35** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. **36** For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? **37** For what can a man give in return for his soul? **38** For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

9 And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.”

Jesus Is King

- “**27** And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that I am?’ **28** And they told him, ‘John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.’ **29** And he asked them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered him, ‘You are the Christ.’ **30** And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him” (Mark 8:27-30).
- The disciples finally get it!
 - Christ (Greek) = Messiah (Hebrew) = Anointed one = King
 - “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1).
 - “The expectation of a messiah par excellence was primarily an expectation of an anointed king who would crush God’s enemies and rule the nations (Ps. 2:2) (Peter Orr, *The Beginning of the Gospel*, 30).
 - “Many, if not most second-Temple Jews, then, hoped for the new exodus, seen as the final return from exile” (N. T. Wright, *Jesus and the Victory of God*, 209).
- Jesus is King!

Jesus Is the Crucified King

- “**31** 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. **32** And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. **33** But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man’” (Mark 8:31-33).
- Jesus changes everything!
 - “Jesus is the expected Messiah in a most unexpected manner” (Frank Matera, *The Kingship of Jesus*, 145).
 - “Jesus said this plainly!”
 - “And he was teaching them many things in parables” (Mark 4:2).
 - In the next 3 chapters Jesus predicts his death and resurrection 3x: Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34.
 - In all 3: (1) Son of Man, (2) will be killed, (3) 3 days later, (4) he will rise.
- Jesus the Messiah is the Suffering Servant
 - 4 Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
 - 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
 we have turned—every one—to his own way;
 and the Lord has laid on him
 the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
 yet he opened not his mouth;
 like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
 and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
 so he opened not his mouth.

8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
 and as for his generation, who considered
 that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
 stricken for the transgression of my people?

9 And they made his grave with the wicked
 and with a rich man in his death,
 although^[a] he had done no violence,
 and there was no deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him;
 he has put him to grief;^[b]
 when his soul makes^[c] an offering for guilt,
 he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
 the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see^[d] and be satisfied;
 by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
 make many to be accounted righteous,
 and he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,^[e]
 and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,^[f]
 because he poured out his soul to death
 and was numbered with the transgressors;
 yet he bore the sin of many,
 and makes intercession for the transgressors (Isaiah 53:4-12)

- Jesus Is the Crucified King

Jesus' Kingdom Comes with a Cross

- “**34** 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. **35** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. **36** For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? **37** For what can a man give in return for his soul? **38** For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.’” (Mark 8:34-38).
- We have a decision to make!
 - Jesus makes three demands of his disciples

- Deny yourself
- Take up your cross
- Follow Jesus' way
- Jesus' Kingdom appears weak and foolish.
 - "22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men" (1 Corinthians 1:22-25).
- Jesus is not asking his disciples to do anything that he hasn't done.
- The power and wisdom of the cross leads to life!
- Jesus' Kingdom Comes with a Cross

You cannot understand the identity of Jesus and his kingdom apart from the cross.

- Is Jesus your King?
- Will you accept Jesus' cross?
- Will you take up your own cross?