

Sunday, December 18, 2011—Mark Dispensationally Considered—Mark 10:32-45: Jesus Christ the Servant of All

Mark 10:32-34

- *And they were in the way going up to Jerusalem; and Jesus went before them: and they were amazed; and as they followed, they were afraid. And he took again the twelve, and began to tell them what things should happen unto him 33) [Saying], Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles: 34) And they shall mock him, and shall scourge him, and shall spit upon him, and shall kill him: and the third day he shall rise again.*
- Mark 10:32—Jesus is now making his way to Jerusalem for the final time. Mark alone gives us insight into the emotional state of Apostles. Something must have been different in Christ’s demeanor as he “went before them.” They were amazed and afraid as the followed Christ.
- Jesus knowing their fears as well as all that would happen to Him in the near future, took the Apostles aside and told them again all they would befall him in Jerusalem. This is the third time that Jesus has foretold his own death since chapter eight.
 - Mark 8:31
 - Mark 9:30-32
- Luke 18:31-34—once again we see that these things were hid from their eyes and they did not understand them. Therefore, they were not preaching about the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ as part of the Gospel of the Kingdom.
- Luke 24:21-27, 45—it was not until after the resurrection that their understanding were opened and they understood the scriptures.

Mark 10:35-45

- *And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire. 36) And he said unto them, What would ye that I should do for you? 37) They said unto him, Grant unto us that we may sit, one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left hand, in thy glory. 38) But Jesus said unto them, Ye know not what ye ask: can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? 39) And they said unto him, We can. And Jesus said unto them, Ye shall indeed drink of the cup that I drink of; and with the baptism that I am baptized withal shall ye be baptized: 40) But to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give; but [it shall be given to them] for whom it is prepared. 41) And when the ten heard it, they began to be much displeased with James and John. 42) But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them;*

and their great ones exercise authority upon them. 43) But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: 44) And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. 45) For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

- Mark 10:35-37—James and John the sons of Zebedee come to Christ and ask him to allow them to sit on one on his right hand and the other on his left when he enters into his glory. This request is proof that Christ actually taught the He was going to establish a kingdom here on earth. James and John are asking for a place of preeminence in the kingdom.
 - Matthew 20:20-21—records that “the mother of Zebedee’s children” was also involved in this request.
- Mark 10:38—Jesus tells James and John that they don’t know what they are asking. Jesus then asks them a question, can they drink of the cup or be baptized with the baptism that he will experience. What is the cup that Christ will drink and the baptism with which he will be baptized? In the context, the cup and the baptism to which Christ referred both point to His sufferings and death.
 - Luke 12:50—it is important to note that this baptism has nothing to do with water.
- Mark 10:39—James and John respond by saying that they can drink of the cup and be baptized with the same baptism as Christ. Jesus then responds by telling them that they will drink of the cup and be baptized with the same baptism as Christ. The indication is clear; the disciples also would suffer a like fate at the hands of the unbelieving world.
- They did indeed, drink of His cup and suffer his baptism,
 - Acts 12:2—James was beheaded
 - Revelation 1:9—John was exiled to the island of Patmos
- Mark 10:40—while they can and will drink of His cup and suffer his Baptism; it is not Christ’s place to hand out positions of authority in the kingdom. This right is reserved for God the Father.
 - Matthew 20:23—“positions in the kingdom of the Son were planned by the Father; and the Son in the Unity of the God-head, would only give such positions to those whom the father had determined to grant them. He, as the son could indeed lead His followers to suffering and death, but the first places in His Kingdom He would only bestow on those whom the Father had chosen from such positions.” (Williams, 720)
- Mark 10:41—when the rest of the Apostles heard the request of James and John they were greatly angered they were unwilling to be last.

- Matthew 20:24—the indignation of the ten points out one of the weaknesses of fallen human nature: self-aggrandizement. Man likes to exercise authority, to be able to lord it over others. Such was the energy of the carnal nature in all the twelve.
- Mark 10:42—Jesus uses the example of the Gentiles. There are always levels and rank and authority even amongst they who are accorded a position of lordship.
 - Matthew 20:25
- Mark 10:43-45—the kingdom of Christ is not going to function like Gentile kingdoms. Greatness will be based on ones willingness to minister and serve others. If one wants to be the greatest, he should be greatest in caring for and serving others.
- Christ is set forth as the great example of this kingdom ethic. Jesus as the Servant of Jehovah came to be the Servant of all (verse 44) and to give His life as a ransom for many.
- Paul teaches the same spiritual ethic to the Body of Christ.
 - I Corinthians 12:25
 - II Corinthians 5:15
 - Philippians 2:3-8, 20-21
- Mark 10:45—it is important to note that Jesus states that the Son of man came to give his life a ransom for many. If one does not rightly divide the word of Truth they will end up limiting the atonement as the Calvinist do.
 - Matthew 20:28
 - Matthew 26:28
- How did Christ come to minister to in the Gospels?
 - Matthew 15:24—“the lost sheep of the house of Israel”
 - Matthew 1:21—“save his people from their sins” Who are his people? The house of Israel.
 - John 1:11—“he came unto his own” Whose sins did Christ die for in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John? Israel’s.
- According to all the information God had revealed Jesus Christ came to die for the sins of the nation of Israel and any gentile who chose to identify himself with God’s nation.
- I Timothy 2:4-7—Paul is the one to whom the glorious message was given that Christ had given himself as a ransom for all. Paul makes known all the Christ accomplished on the cross as God’s due time testifier.