

23S09 Mark 10:32-52 (Part 24)

Hello everyone. Thank you for joining me today @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. I hope everyone is doing well. Today we are continuing our study of the gospel according to Mark with Mark 10:32-52 (Part 24) Jesus foretells His suffering and Bartimaeus receives his sight.

Before we start, we need to understand a little about this amazing book in the bible. Most historians believe Mark was the first written account of Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection. The identity of Mark is not known for sure, but most believe this is John Mark. John Mark is spoken of by Luke in Acts as the cousin of Barnabas, John Mark is mentioned in many other books on the New Testament. Many believe he spent time traveling with Peter, so it is thought that much of Mark's gospel is actually from the perspective of Peter. We also believe that John Mark knew Jesus. There are accounts that Jesus stayed at Mark's mother's home, there are also some unique story details in Mark that are not in either Matthew's or Luke's accounts. We will try to highlight some of these as we go through the stories in Mark.

I'm reading from the New American Standard version (NAS) today.

Let's read Mark 10:32-52 (NAS) *³²Now they were on the road going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking on ahead of them; and they were amazed, and those who followed were fearful. And again He took the twelve aside and began to tell them what was going to happen to Him, ³³saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and will hand Him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴And they will mock Him and spit on Him, and flog Him and kill Him; and three days later He will rise from the dead."*

³⁵James and John, the two sons of Zebedee, came up to Jesus, saying to Him, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You." ³⁶And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" ³⁷They said to Him, "Grant that we may sit, one on Your right and one on Your left, in Your glory." ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" ³⁹They said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you shall drink; and you shall be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized. ⁴⁰But to sit on My right or on My left is not Mine to give; but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." ⁴¹Hearing this, the other ten began to feel indignant with James and John. ⁴²Calling them to Himself, Jesus said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles domineer over them; and their people in high position exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it is not this way among you; rather, whoever wants to become prominent among you shall be your servant; ⁴⁴and whoever wants to be first among you shall be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." ⁴⁶Then they came to Jericho. And later, as He was leaving Jericho with His disciples and a large crowd, a beggar who was blind named Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the road. ⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene,

he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Many were sternly telling him to be quiet, but he kept crying out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him here." So they called the man who was blind, saying to him, "Take courage, stand up! He is calling for you." ⁵⁰And throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹And replying to him, Jesus said, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And the man who was blind said to Him, "Rabboni, I want to regain my sight!" ⁵²And Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." And immediately he regained his sight and began following Him on the road.

Let's pray. **Dear heavenly father, guide our discussion today such that your message is clear to each of us. As we read your words from Mark, help us see what Mark wants his readers to understand and why. I pray that you help me stay out of the way so your hope and peace can be shared with us. I pray this in your name Lord Jesus. Amen.**

Now, let's take a closer look at these verses, Mark 10:32 (NAS) ³²Now they were on the road going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking on ahead of them; and they were amazed, and those who followed were fearful. And again He took the twelve aside and began to tell them what was going to happen to Him,

Remember Jesus had just given His teaching about how difficult it is for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God but all things are possible with God. Now they are going back to Jerusalem from somewhere in the Jordan river area. Jesus sees that His followers are confused and concerned, now He's going to tell them again He is going to be killed.

Mark 10:33-34 (NAS) ³³saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and will hand Him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴And they will mock Him and spit on Him, and flog Him and kill Him; and three days later He will rise from the dead."

Jesus is very clear the Chief priests and scribes or the Sanhedrin will condemn Jesus and hand him over to the Gentiles or Romans to be killed. Jesus goes further this time to describe that He will be mocked, spit on, flogged and killed. But he reinforces that three days later He will rise again.

Mark 10:35-37 (NAS) ³⁵James and John, the two sons of Zebedee, came up to Jesus, saying to Him, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You." ³⁶And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" ³⁷They said to Him, "Grant that we may sit, one on Your right and one on Your left, in Your glory."

Jesus knows what they are about to ask. James and John are thinking that Jesus is about to set up His earthly kingdom and are wanting position.

Next Mark 10:38-40 (NAS) ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" ³⁹They said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The

cup that I drink you shall drink; and you shall be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized. ⁴⁰But to sit on My right or on My left is not Mine to give; but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

Jesus knows they are not ready to face what He will. They don't understand what they are asking for. But Jesus also foretells, that they will also face suffering and death in defense of the name of Jesus in the future.

But Jesus knows the other disciples are going to react to this, Mark 10:41-42 (NAS) *⁴¹Hearing this, the other ten began to feel indignant with James and John. ⁴²Calling them to Himself, Jesus said to them, “You know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles domineer over them; and their people in high position exercise authority over them.*

What an interesting shift to an example of what authority looks like in their time.

Next Mark 10:43-45 (NAS) *⁴³But it is not this way among you; rather, whoever wants to become prominent among you shall be your servant; ⁴⁴and whoever wants to be first among you shall be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”*

Jesus quickly pivots to how things are among His followers. The leaders are servants, servants are leaders. You want to be the first, then behave as the last. Give your life away for the benefit of many.

Next Mark 10:46-47 (NAS) *⁴⁶Then they came to Jericho. And later, as He was leaving Jericho with His disciples and a large crowd, a beggar who was blind named Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the road. ⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”*

Jesus and His followers are now near Jericho on their way up to Jerusalem. There is no doubt a crowd around Jesus and Bartimaeus hears that Jesus is coming and cries out to the Lord, “have mercy on me.”

Next Mark 10:48-50 (NAS) *⁴⁸Many were sternly telling him to be quiet, but he kept crying out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹And Jesus stopped and said, “Call him here.” So they called the man who was blind, saying to him, “Take courage, stand up! He is calling for you.” ⁵⁰And throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and came to Jesus.*

Bartimaeus will not be shushed and Jesus calls for him to come. How would you feel if Jesus called to you. Bartimaeus, jumps to his feet, throws off his cloak and quickly comes to Jesus.

Next Mark 10:51-52 (NAS) ⁵¹And replying to him, Jesus said, “What do you want Me to do for you?” And the man who was blind said to Him, “Rabboni, I want to regain my sight!” ⁵²And Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he regained his sight and began following Him on the road.

And Jesus your faith has made you well. Let that sink in for a while!

Let's review.

- 1) Position and Posture? Jesus does not want us to act like the world does. We are not to be fixated on our status, our authority or our prestige. In God's kingdom, Jesus is King. All the rest of us are servants. You want to be important in the kingdom of God, then serve others in the name of Jesus expecting nothing in return.
- 2) Have Mercy on Me? Bartimaeus will not be denied. They shush him, he screams louder. We all need the mercy of God, don't be discouraged by those around you or situations you are in. Cry to Jesus, have mercy on me, then listen. When God calls you, then you need to act.
- 3) Your Faith has made you well? So what do you think about this? Jesus heals this man, but the man's faith is an important part of this. He is not healed by his faith but because of his faith he can be healed. We must earnestly believe Jesus can do what we need. But then we have to trust in God's plan and do whatever we are asked to do.

Let's Pray. Heavenly Father thank you for Bible. Help us to read and meditate on your words so we can hear the message you have for us. Help us to remember who you are Lord. You are our king, king of kings. You are our Lord, Lord over everyone. We can trust you, Lord. Help us to ask you for wisdom when we don't understand. I pray this in your Name Lord Jesus. Amen

Let me leave you with this today. I love how the bible authors weave in stories like this for us. There was a lot of time spent walking from place to place, and I am sure there were some very odd conversations. Mark records this sequence for us, to help us understand this. You can learn a lot during your life journey, just like the disciples.

What does this mean for you? It is okay to ask God. But don't expect that He has to give it to you the way you want it. It doesn't work that way. God knows what is best. Our responsibility is to trust Jesus. Listen to Jesus. Study the words and lessons from God in the Bible. This way when we are in need and cry out Lord have mercy on me, we are ready to do what Jesus asks us to do with eagerness.

Thank you for joining me for our study of the gospel of Mark. Please email me comments or feedback. And if you liked the message, please share the link with your friends. Until next time @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.