

- b) Jesus said, “Peter, the things you are thinking are not the things of God, BUT the things of men.”
- c) When trials come into our lives, we often have human thoughts rather than God’s thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8) “*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.*”

☞ *If God’s will for Jesus led him into corrupt courtroom, to the whipping post, to the cross and through the cemetery, don’t be shocked if God’s will for you includes some trials.*

Conclusion: After walking with Jesus at the foot of Mount Hermon and listening to His instruction, let’s review what we have learned. |> First, we learned that Jesus is the Christ. He is God in the flesh, the Saviour of the world. |> Second, it was necessary for Jesus to die on Calvary’s cross for our sins, redemption, justification, propitiation, and reconciliation. |> Third, Jesus rebuked Peter for opposing God’s plan? Had Jesus avoided the cross you and I would have no hope of eternal life. Remember, even God’s perfect will includes suffering.

Have you received Jesus as your Saviour? Have you received these gifts of salvation? If you have not yet trusted Christ for salvation, He is calling you today. “*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*” (John 1:12). Don’t put it off. Tomorrow may be too late.

Christian friend, think about all Christ did for you on the cross. You owe him everything. Have you totally surrendered your life to Him? Are you trusting Him even in the midst of trials? (Romans 12:1) “*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*”

Song: After All He’s Done for Me

An Instructive Walk with Jesus

12 November 2017 AM – Mark 8:27-33 – Mr17 – Scott Childs

Introduction: Today’s Scripture passage takes place on the road to Caesarea Philippi. Caesarea Philippi was in the country, about 38 km north of Bethsaida, at the “upper source” of the Jordan River, and near the base of Mount Hermon. Mount Hermon is 2814 m tall making it the tallest mountain in Palestine. The runoff from its snow-covered peaks provides the principal source of water for the Jordan River. This was a beautiful, quiet, isolated place. While on a path in that beautiful region, Jesus had an instructive walk with His disciples.

Transition: Let’s join Jesus and His disciples on their walk. As we do, let’s listen to Jesus’ instructions and apply them to our lives.

1. Jesus Began His Instruction with a Quiz (v.27-30)

a. Jesus’ first question was, “Who to **men** say that I am?” (v.27-28)

- 1) Note the disciples’ answers.
 - a) Some men thought Jesus was John the Baptist. This is what Herod the king thought (6:16). Obviously others had the same idea.
 - b) Some men thought Jesus was Elijah.
 - c) Others thought Jesus was a resurrected prophet.
- 2) All of these assumptions were humanly impossible, but all of them were wrong.

☞ *Today many sincere people believe that Jesus was just a good man, a prophet, a god, or a great example, but these assumptions are also wrong.*

b. Jesus’ next question was, “Who do **you** say I am?” (v.29-30)

- 1) Peter, the quickest to answer, said you are the Christ.
 - a) The word “*Christ*” which comes from Greek is the same as “Messiah” which comes from Hebrew.
 - b) These names mean “The Anointed One.” Jesus was more than just a man, He was the God-man, God in the flesh, the Saviour of the world. (1 Timothy 3:16) “*And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in*

the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."

- 2) Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone this truth. Why would Jesus say that? Here are two possible reasons.
 - a) People did not yet understand the true ministry of the coming Messiah. For that matter, the disciples did not either. They were looking for a conquering king not a crucified Saviour. This wrong opinion may spark revolt.
 - b) Another possible reason is that Jesus wanted people to conclude by themselves that He was the Messiah.

📖 *Who do you say Jesus is? Is he just a great prophet and good example, or do you believe He is God the Son, the Christ? Have you received Him as your Saviour from hell?*

2. Jesus Continued His Instruction With a Lesson (v.31-32)

a. The content of the lesson was shocking.

✧ *I have sat through some lessons that were rather boring. If the lesson is boring it is difficult time paying good attention. Jesus' lesson was far from boring. It was not the least bit dry. In fact it was shocking and the disciples probably strained to catch every word.*

- 1) Jesus said that it was necessary for Him to suffer! What did He mean?
 - a) It was **necessary** for Jesus to suffer and **die** in our place. (Galatians 1:4) *"Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father."*
 - b) It was **necessary** for Jesus to suffer for us to fully **appease the wrath** of God towards our sin. (1 John 4:10) *"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."*
 - c) It was **necessary** for Jesus to suffer to **redeem** us (i.e., pay the debt of our sin and set us free). (Ephesians 1:7) *"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"*

- d) It was **necessary** for Jesus to suffer to **justify** us (i.e., to erase every trace of our sin). (Romans 5:9) *"Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."*
 - e) It was **necessary** for Jesus to suffer to **reconcile** us to God (i.e., make us friends with God). (Romans 5:10) *"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."*
 - f) It was **necessary** for Jesus to suffer for us that he might be able to **offer** us these gifts of salvation.
- 2) Jesus would be rejected by religious leaders (v.31).
 - a) They would kill Him.
 - b) After three days He would rise to life again.
 - c) The teaching in this lesson was clear. Jesus did not speak in parables. No one missed the point, but it still did not fully sink in.

3. Jesus Ended His Instruction with a Rebuke (v.32-33)

a. In response, Peter began rebuking Jesus

- 1) Peter rejected the idea of a suffering Christ. He wanted a king.
- 2) Peter was expressing the feelings of all the disciples. *"Began"* implies that Peter was acting as a spokesman for all the disciples. He was just the first to verbally respond. It appears that the others felt exactly the same.

b. Jesus then rebuked Peter

- 1) The rebuke was direct.
 - a) Jesus turned and faced all the disciples (he knew they agreed with Peter).
 - b) Jesus directed the rebuke at Peter.
- 2) The rebuke was harsh.
 - a) *Get behind me Satan!* Though Peter was not actually Satan, Satan caused him to say what he did. Peter was being used by Satan to tempt Christ to avoid the cross. Jesus immediately confronted temptation with truth. **That is the best way to confront temptation!**