

THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SERVE

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—November 19th, 2023

Mark 10:35-45

(ESV)

[35] And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." [36] And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" [37] And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." [38] 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?" [39] And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, [40] but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." [41] And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. [42] And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. [43] But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, [44] and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. [45] For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

INTRODUCTION

For Jesus the way of glory is the way of sacrifice and service.

SELFISHNESS

The sin of selfishness turns God into an idol that is there to simply fulfill our own desires.

James 4:3—*[3] You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.*

The Christian life is not about coming to God in order for him to do what we want, but about learning to want what God wants.

Matthew 26:39—*[39] "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."*

SUFFERING

The disciples were asking for a privilege without understanding the steep price that it would require.

Jesus draws a parallel between his suffering and the elements that he would establish for the ordinances of the church—Lord’s Supper and baptism.

Throughout the old testament the wrath of God is compared to a cup that is filled ready to be poured.

Psalm 75:8

*[8] For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup
with foaming wine, well mixed,
and he pours out from it,
and all the wicked of the earth
shall drain it down to the dregs.*

Baptism is a picture of the overwhelming judgment of God.

1 Peter 3:21—*[21] Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ...*

James and John were not able to suffer for Christ at that moment, but once they were transformed by the Holy Spirit they would.

Believers are not just able to suffer for Christ, believers must suffer for Christ.

Acts 14:22—*[14] Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”*

1 Peter 4:12—*[12] Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.*

SERVICE

Jesus didn’t want his disciples to worry about honor in the age to come, but service in the present age.

Because those who belong to Jesus submit their wills to the will of Jesus.

John 10:27—*[27] “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”*