

The Son of Man Must Suffer

Luke 9:21 - 22

Takeaway: Jesus would not fulfill the definition of Messiah until the work was completed, specifically, His suffering. He had to overcome by ordeal.

Our privilege is that He invites us to join Him in suffering and rejection

I. Context: The .

II. Text

Luke 9:21 But strictly warning them, He ordered no one to tell this, **22** saying, "It is necessary for the Son of Man to suffer many things and to be disapproved by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and to be killed, and to be raised the third day.

Literal Standard Version with modifications

The next four outline items, III. - VI., are based on the 4 uses of Scripture listed in 2 Tim 3:16 AND the 3 depictions of preaching in 2 Tim 4:2.

III. Teaching

A. An outline of Luke to this point

I. About this Letter: So you'll know about this Jesus, 1:1-4

II. Testimonies to Messiah's coming. A boyhood turning point, 1:5-2:52

III. John proclaims repentance for Christ's coming, 3:1 - 20

IV. Messiah's Entry Credentials: Baptism and Genealogy, 3:21-38

V. His Initiation: Fasting and Temptation, 4:1 - 13

VI. His Self-Introduction and Hometown Rejection, 4:14 - 30

VII. Jesus: The FIRST MAN with all authority over demons, sickness, and nature, 4:31 - 5:11

VIII. Turning-Point Healings, 5:12 - 32

A. Repatriating a leper, 5:12 - 16, touching the unclean outcast to preview His taking of our exile/ disease into Himself

B. Forgiving sin, 5:17 - 26, thus declaring His Deity

C. Healing/ renewal of a man's (Matthew's) soul, 5:27 - 32

IX. New and Old Covenants:

A. NC = OC *replacement*, ~~patch-up~~, 5:33-39. NC: Law in ♥.

- B. 6:1-11, OC Sabbath *strict*, but intended as a *help*.
- X. Picking The 12, 6:12-16; teaching / etc., incl. Tyrites, 6:17-19
- XI. Jesus' manifesto: the **SERMON ON THE PLAIN**, 6:20-49
 - A. Literal poor vs. rich. We are to love our haters. We must give generously, living by pity.
 - B. Only right teaching creates right living. Convict *self* 1st. Only building on Christ will survive life's floodplains.
- XII. Messiah's **MISSION** Portrayed in His Interactions
 - A. Forecast: A **Gentile** seeks Jesus for a healing, Lk 7:1-10
 - B. Forecast: Hope still held out to **Israel**: Nain widow, 11-17
 - C. John's Q. A.: 2 diverse comings & an interval, 7:24-30
 - D. John & Jesus differently wise. Both rejected, 7:31-35
 - E. Love for Jesus is tied to forgiveness. The sinful woman had both; Simon the Pharisee lacked both, 7:36-50.
 - F. 8:1-15, 4 Soils = 4 kinds of "hearing" of the Word. Only a "virtuous and sound heart" is living and fruit-bearing
 - 1. Hence, take care HOW you hear that Word, 8:16-18
 - 2. Mary as mom not an insider; Word-doers only, 8:19-21
 - G. It is a Word of **power** over nature (8:22-25), demons (8:26-39), sickness (8:40-48), and death (8:49-56)
- XIII. Messiah's **COMMISSION**, the first
 - A. You 12 preach, heal, and exorcise as I have. Live on what you're given. Where unwelcome, disassociate, 9:1-6
 - B. Guesses given to Herod about Jesus' identity, 9:7-9
 - C. New ministry lesson: *You* 12 feed the crowd, 9:10-17
 - D. Popular opinion: Jesus = a previous prophet, 9:18-20
 - E. "But who do you'll say I am?" Peter: "God's Anointed"

Kid-speak: Who did Peter say Jesus was last time? The C__ (Christ), or M__ (Messiah), meaning A__ (Anointed). What does Anointed mean? It means God *picked Him* to save us.

B. 9:21-22, "Christ" was not just a title, but a work. The work wasn't completed, so the completed message had to wait.

Outline:

- I. Jesus Sternly Commands Not to Broadcast Him as Christ, v 21
- II. Why? The Work of Messiah Wasn't Done, v 22

III. “Son of Man”: Ezekiel as a Type of Christ

IV. Specifics of Christ’s Suffering from the Old Testament

- A. Disapproved by the Jewish leaders
 - B. Killed
 - C. Raised the third day
- C. “But strictly warning them, He ordered no one to tell this.”
- 1. Not to tell what?
 - a. That He was Christ
 - b. “No one”: Apostles or disciples
 - 2. Why not tell that? Wasn’t that the whole point?
 - a. Jesus *had* already owned the title “Christ,” Lk 4:41
 - b. In Jn 10:24, in answer to the direct question, He said He’d *been* telling them that. Hm.
 - 3. This is one of the “Now” and “Not Yet” aspects of the Gospel
 - a. Jesus came as the Christ. He was the promised Anointed One. Messiah would be no others person, and the **person** was here.
 - b. Christ officially **entered** the ministry prophesied of the Messiah (e.g., Isa 41:) at His baptism
 - ★ c. But, as our passage today tells us, the **full** mantle of Messiah would not be worn until He had **died** and **risen** from the dead, Lk 9:22

Kid-speak: What did Jesus tell His followers NOT to tell? That He was Christ! Wow. Why not? Let’s see.

- D. “Strictly warning”
- 1. The compound Gk word is an intensifying prefix + a root translated “honor/ value” all 21x it occurs
 - 2. So something like ‘putting them on their honor’ in a very grave manner
 - 3. But the compound is used for Christ rebuking the wind, e.g., Lk 8:24, so a real clamp
- E. “He ordered no one to tell this”
- 1. Again, this is a climactic moment. They finally ‘get’ who He is, despite the many misleading guesses
 - 2. Now Messiah as a finished work had to be kept under wraps until the work was finished

3. After His resurrection, of course, Jesus charged His Apostles to tell, tell, tell!
 - a. *We* are charged to tell it all!
 - b. Meekly, fearfully, 1 Pet 3:15
 - c. Wisely, urgently, graciously, with special seasoning, Col 4:5-6

Kid-speak: Why couldn't the Apostles say that Jesus was Messiah yet? Because Jesus wasn't the Messiah until He died on the Cross.

F. "Saying, the Son of Man must suffer many things"

G. "Son of Man"

- ◆ 1. This was the title Jesus used of Himself most often
- 2. When we view this title in the context of our passage, we see Son of Man as the *Messiah on His way to completing His mission*
- 3. A basic meaning of it from the OT is "human"; that is, descendant of a human
- 4. Far and away, the bulk of its occurrences are in **Ezekiel**, 93x. It's what God called Ezekiel, Heb, *Yuchezqale*, "strength of God," or "God strengthens"
 - a. The 4 Gospels together 'only' = 80
 - b. And there's only 192 total, OT & NT
- 5. So most likely, Jesus recognized **Ezekiel** as a type of Christ
 - a. Dan 7:13 has one "like a son of man." That only connotes a human figure. Still, surely it's God the Son.
 - b. But it's more likely Jesus recognized the title as Messianic from Ezekiel

H. **Ezekiel** as messianic "son of man"

1. The messianic nature of Ezekiel is probably best seen in the culmination of the book, the New Temple of Ezek 40-48
2. Ezekiel, who began his ministry at 30, was a priest and prophet who was to declare this new Temple to Israel to shame them into confession of their idolatry, Ezek 43:11
 - a. Ezek 43:11 also contains a hidden element
 - b. He was to set his heart on the Temple, understanding its meaning in order to declare it, Ezek 40:4
 - c. Jesus was a prophet and priest who proclaimed Himself as the eternal priest and eternally availing sacrifice in Heaven's Temple.

3. **Ezekiel** was also a prophet of judgment and transition
 - a. Missions which Jesus particularly fulfilled
 - b. Judging Israel to be unbelieving, left with hard hearts for 2K years now. The glory departed the Temple.

Kid-speak: Jesus said that He was the “Son of Man.” Who was mainly the “Son of Man” in the Old Testament? Ezekiel. Jesus was saying He was like Ezekiel.

- I. “The Son of Man must suffer many things”
 1. Here is Jesus’ first specific announcement of the Cross
 - a. He’ll repeat it, 9:44; 17:25; 18:31-33; 22:15
 - b. But they won’t understand it, Lk 18:34
 2. How did Jesus come to understand it? Through special revelation (*outside* Scriptures) or *through* Scriptures?
 3. Scriptures, for after His resurrection, He went to the OT to show the necessity of His sufferings, Lk 24:26-27; 45-46
 4. What Scriptures?
 - a. Isa 53 and Ps 22 are the most prominent examples
 - b. We recently saw Zech 3:9; 13:7
 - c. Dan 9:26, which includes the *when*
 - d. Ps 69:9b
 - e. The Tabernacle and Temple services
 - f. Foreshadowing events, e.g., Gen 22, a vicarious death
- J. “Suffer,” Gk., *pasxo*
 1. Why would the Messiah have to suffer?
 2. Because Messiah is a representative man, and He takes on Him the suffering due His constituents- us
 3. Why then do *we* continue to suffer?
 - a. As *fellowship* with Him, 1 Pet 2:20-21; 3:17-18; 4:1
 - b. We are “called” to this “same mind”
- K. “Many things”
 1. Our sin/ sins had earned *multiple* wounds on *multiple* levels
 - a. Justice required a full payment
 - b. At the Lord’s Table, in thinking on His death, we think on the payment made and what the payment was for
 2. What did He suffer? Being lied against, betrayed, forsaken by the Apostles, beaten, humiliated, and tortured to death

Kid-speak: What did the Old Testament say had to happen to the Messiah? He had to be hurt a lot. Did that happen to Jesus?

Yes.

- L. “And to be disapproved by the elders and the leading priests and the scribes”
 - 1. On top of and as part of His suffering, those who were purportedly awaiting the Messiah would see Him officially disapproved by all the Jewish leaders
 - 2. Jesus did not simply say that leading Jewish figures would reject Him. He specified three categories.
 - a. Did the OT specify the 3 categories?
 - b. Or was it a general prophecy about Jewish leadership?
 - 3. From Ps 118:22 I’d say the latter, not knowing any Scriptures that specify the 3 separately
 - a. Jesus will quote it ↑ in Lk 20:17, after the parable of the avenged vineyard owner
 - b. “Builders” in Ps 118:22 represents all 3 categories
 - 4. We see the *spiritual solidarity* of the Jews in the 3 categories
 - a. As in Jeremiah’s day, the “prophets” lied and the “priests” bullied, 5:31, and “My people love to have it so.”
 - b. Not that the people wouldn’t complain, but they would never trade out the existing system for the Truth
- M. “The elders”
 - 1. The peoples’ direct leaders from the OT
 - 2. We saw the elders in this capacity in 7:3
- N. Leading priests”
 - 1. Anna and Caiphas were listed as these in 3:2
 - 2. Two was not uncommon, 2 Sam 15:35, at least functionally
- O. “And scribes”
 - 1. So far, Luke has listed scribes with the Pharisees, 5:21, 30; 6:7, as later, 11:53; 15:2
 - 2. But they are listed with the priests, as here, in 19:47; 20:1; 22:2; 22:66; 23:10
 - 3. They were comfortable with the priests, incl. the Sadducees; but also with the Pharisees. As always, politics, including in the church, is an interesting game.
- P. What would these three groups do? “Disapprove” God’s Anointed One
 - 1. “Reject” is not too strong, but it is a compound word, literally, “Away from approval”
 - a. Implying testing, the root word, then judging inadequate
 - b. Peter, quoting Ps 118:22 again, contrasts the world’s

- rejection of Him to His value in our sight, 1 Pet 2:7
2. Jesus will use this word in quoting Ps 118:22 in Lk 20:17
 3. “Not pass the test” is the idea in the word
 - a. The Jewish leaders tested Jesus
 - b. Did He ever really have a chance? Is man ever truly fair?
 - c. We could probably say that the more it counts, the *less* fair man becomes
 - d. When it comes to righteousness, we will guard our own at all costs... unless and until God awakens us to the lifelessness of our righteousness

Kid-speak: All the leaders of Israel tested Jesus, and what did they say? He was no good.

4. The world still disapproves Jesus
 - a. One indication that Christmas is amiss. Why would the world accept Him at this time of year?
 - b. The Christmas version of Jesus is a false one
 - c. Good luck repairing it
- Q. “And to be killed”
1. Another place Jesus would see His rejection is where He saw His death, Ps 22
 - a. Rejection, Ps 22:6-8, 11-22;
 - b. Death, v 16; Zech 12:10; 13:7; Dan 9:26; Isa 53:8-9, 12
 - c. Beside the Tabernacle sacrifices
 2. But His death went beyond mere death
 - a. He suffered the judgment of others
 - b. An eternity’s worth of an innumerable host
- R. “And to be raised the third day”
1. Death not being the end of Him!
 2. “Raised,” Ps 16:10
- S. “The third day”
1. Jesus referred to Jonah’s reappearance as a prophecy referring to Himself, Lk 11:29-30
 2. Jonah seems to have died, Jon 2:4
 - a. Prophesying his own rising, 2:4b
 - b. Also 2:6
 3. Christ saw His resurrection in these verses and its timing in Jon 1:17. Jonah was also a type of Christ.

Kid-speak: Did the Old Testament tell Jesus that after He was

killed He would come alive again 3 days later? Yes.

T. How long had Jesus known His fate?

1. Probably about as long as He had seen Himself as the prophesied Messiah
2. John the baptist had seen “the Lamb of God, taking away the sin of the world,” Jn 1:29
 - a. The Apostles, of course, did not share John’s insight
 - b. Since Christ’s resurrection, it is no longer concealed
3. Can a message more massive than the world be carried on human tongues?
 - a. May it be wondered at and adored in our hearts
 - b. And carried humbly on our thankful tongues

IV. For the Walking Wounded (1 Thess 5:14, “Uphold the strengthless”) Christ is a sufferer. In that case, the title “fellow-sufferer” is an immeasurable honor.

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V. Conviction (2 Tim 4:2, “Convince, rebuke”): **What have I done wrong?**  
**How have I lost righteousness?**  
Is suffering central to my idea of Christ?

VI. Correction/ Realignment (2 Tim 4:2, “Exhort/encourage”):  
**How will I correct my error? How will I regain uprightness?**  
I will remember *my* connection to His suffering daily.

VIII. Schooling in Righteousness: **How do I take this on the road?**  
Father, it pleased You to crush Him, putting Him to grief that He might see His seed. May He see me.

Vision: Why did Jesus admonish His disciples to keep His true identity quiet? The central work of Messiah was yet to come, one over which He would agonize in Gethsemane.

That capped secret had a spring-loaded lid. Its eject button would blow off with the force of Christ’s resurrection. The silence has become a shout.

If your soul shouts, don’t worry- your mouth will testify.  
Focus on your worship.