

Mrk29 – **Can You See Yet? – Mark 8:27-33**

It might **seem** like we have to go - a **LONG WAY BACK**
to **catch** up from our last message in **MARK**

It was only a **MONTH ago** -
But it **seems** Much **LONGER**

it's **June 2020** - & we've been **watching** our **culture**
try to **DESTROY itself** from **within** for a **month**

But – it's **actually** a great time
to **get BACK** to the Gospel of **Mark**

Because our **text** today is **PERFECT**
for the **Current Civil-War Climate** of our **culture**

You've **heard** me say - **Mark** likes to **make** his **points**
in **TRILOGIES** of **Messages** (*3 msgs – 1 point*)

& **as** we **return** to **Mark** today - we **Return**
to the **THIRD msg** - in a **Critical TRILOGY** of Msg's

This Trilogy goes like this

You CAN'T See – msg 1

You Will See in STAGES – msg 2

Can You See YET? – msg 3

Our **1st Msg** in this **Trilogy** was -
“Do You Understand, Yet?”

(That was OUR – You CAN'T See – Msg)

Our 2nd Msg was - "Seeing in Stages"

& THIS – is the 3rd msg in the Trilogy
"Can You See, Yet?"

& HERE is Mark's POINT – As I see it in the Text

First – Recognize We CAN'T See

Next – Understand We Will See in STAGES

Finally, ask ourselves Can We See YET?

Let's Pray

TWO Msg's ago in Mark

Jesus PROVED that his Disciples – COULDN'T SEE
the true "Spiritual-Side" of things - (Beg of Mark 8)

Then - In our last msg – Jesus HEALED a BLIND MAN
In STAGES – (Middle of Mark 8) . . .

& That occurred in Bethsaida – on the North East Corner
of the Sea of Galilee

& so - as we catch up
with Jesus & the Disciples today

They are leaving Bethsaida - for a 25 mi walk -
to one of our favorite places in Northern Israel

We'll start in - Mark 8:27 (NLT)

27 Jesus and his disciples left Galilee and went up to the villages near Caesarea Philippi. As they were walking along, he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

Prior to Today - The Disciples had plenty of opportunity - to See WHO Jesus – Truly was

**But – They either Saw things INCORRECTLY
Or – they weren't even PAYING ATTENTION at all**

**In Mark Ch 4 – When Jesus calmed the Storm
on the Sea of Galilee**

The Disciples response was, ***"Who is this? That even the wind and the waves obey him?"***

& I want to say to the Disciples – ***"Ok guys, let me help you . . . WHO COULD this possibly be, who calms the wind and the waves with a word . . . think hard now"***

But – the time of waiting for the disciples

to Decide that 2 + 2 -Does equal 4
had come to an end

**This Event – today - was a critical TURNING POINT
in the Life & Ministry of Jesus**

**When this event (today) is finished -
Jesus would set his FACE FIRMLY toward Jerusalem**

**From this event onward – Jesus would be moving
With Steadfast Determination - toward THE CROSS**

**& so - It was HIGH TIME – for the Disciples
to Begin to SEE Things clearly**

**& so – as they're walking
thru what is now the Golan Heights**

The '**EYE-EXAM**' begins
(to **SEE** - **if** they can **SEE** - **Yet**)

& - as a "Lead-In" (or as a Set-Up)

**Jesus asks the Disciples –
*WHO do people SAY that I AM? (end of v.27)***

**& their response - is in Mark 8:28 (NLT)
28 "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some
say Elijah, and others say you are one of the other prophets."**

These are Strange Answers, aren't they?

**all referring to the HEROES of God
Coming back to life**

But – Today's POINT IS

**The people had - Every Possible Opinion
EXCEPT the RIGHT ONE**

& have things changed that much
in 2,000 yrs – Really?

Don't we SEE
basically the same thing today?

MOST of our Culture has AN OPINION
of WHO Jesus Christ IS

JUST as it was on the day
when Jesus asked his Disciples this question

Just this past week – those who are committed to
burning the system of our nation down

Informed us of 2 New Opinions about Jesus

#1) He was WHITE (not Jewish) – which is NEW

#2) He is a symbol of White Supremacy and Racism

& So – all statues of Jesus must be torn down
which will logically be followed →

by all churches bearing his name - being burned down,
along with our “system”

But – Jesus is NOT John the Baptist (as v.28 says)

& Jesus is NOT Elijah

& he is NOT one of the Prophets

& Jesus is NOT WHITE
& he is NOT a Symbol of White Supremacy or Racism

These are ALL Opinions
of People who CANNOT SEE

& We Pray - ultimately - they WILL BE ABLE to SEE
WHO Jesus Christ Truly IS

But – for now – in our Text

Jesus is still trying to get
the 12 guys who've been w/ him
for almost 3 years – to See WHO he truly is

& so he asks them – Very Directly - in

Mark 8:29 (NLT)

29 Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?” . . .

The emphasis here - is on the “YOU”

Jesus is saying, Listen –

I know it's crazy out there

I know there's a hundred opinions about Who I AM

But none of that matters RIGHT NOW

RIGHT NOW – the ONLY thing that matters is
Who do YOU say that I am?

& there was most likely a pause

As the disciples RACED - mentally

Thru all they had witnessed with their own eyes

& the air - might've been HEAVY for a moment

But – We can ALWAYS count on PETER

to jump out there – & be first to answer

& he DOES answer, at the end of V.29

Mark 8:29(b) (NLT)

29 . . . Peter replied, “You are the Messiah.”

This is an INCREDIBLE – WATERSHED moment -
THIS IS IT !

Peter Replies - *You ARE the Messiah*

In Hebrew – *“The Anointed One come from God”*

& Christ - (in GRK) means the same thing

“The Anointed One come from God – to SAVE”

The One that all the Prophets had Foretold

The One promised to Come in the Lineage of King David

The One who would Sit on the Throne Of Israel

& establish the perfect reign of God

Peter says – *You ARE the Messiah*

THAT is WHO you Are!

& - In Matthew's account in MAT Ch 16 -
Jesus responds to Peter's Declaration

Matthew 16:17 (NLT)

17 Jesus replied, "You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being.

Jesus says;

Peter - The MEDIA has NOT TAUGHT you this
SOCIAL MEDIA has NOT TAUGHT you this

My Father in Heaven – Revealed this Truth to you

Doesn't that make us WANT to TURN AWAY
from Social Media Influencers?

Doesn't that make us WANT to TURN AWAY
from Political Influencers?

& INSTEAD – TURN to GOD'S WORD - & Say
"Lord, show me, in your Word, YOUR Truth"

& I Purposely say – Turn to God's WORD
to know God's Truth

Because God will NOT Contradict his Word
With a New Revelation to you

Which means – God **WILL NOT** Reveal to you

that **Jesus** was a **WHITE RACIST**
& **you should tear down** all his **statues**

THAT was NOT God – **that** was **someone else**

So – **Jesus** tells **Peter** (**Mat 16:17**) – that **GOD**
REVEALED the **Truth** of **WHO** Jesus **IS** to **him**

BUT . . . **Does that mean** - **Peter** (& the Disciples)
Could **SEE IT ALL** – Now?

Could they **SEE** - **GOD'S Full PERSPECTIVE?**

Could they **SEE** - **GOD'S Full TIMING?**

Could they **SEE** - **GOD'S ONLY WAY** - to Salvation

They were **getting** - **the WHO!**

But how close were **they** - **on the HOW?**

There were **TWO Political Zealots** in the **Group** -
Simon the Zealot - & **Judas Iscariot**

& they certainly didn't have
God's PERSPECTIVE

or **Know God's TIMING**
or **Know God's ONLY WAY** to bring Salvation

But still – The **EXCITEMENT ROSE** in the **Disciples**

& **MORE** of the **Story** is **told** - in **MATTHEW 16**
& **it** is **AWESOME** – **you** should **read it**

But – **Our focus Today** in **Mark**
is **on** this **ONE THING**

“Can you see, yet?”

Can you See **God’s PERSPECTIVE?**

Can you See **God’s TIMING?**

Can you See **God’s WAY?**

& **remember** – **From this day** – **Jesus** is **Steadfastly SET** –
on **moving toward** the **CROSS**

& **so** – **BECAUSE** he **WAS in control**
of **the Timing** & **the Plan**

Jesus warns the **disciples** – to **keep this** to **themselves**

Mark 8:30 (NLT)

30 But Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

& **then** – **Jesus began**
to **break it down** to the **Disciples**

It was time - they **heard** the **straight truth**

HE had **told them** before

But . . . **they** were **SEEING in Stages**

& **this seems** to **be** - the **first time**

that the **Final Stage**

Started becoming Clear to **them**

The Victory that **Jesus** came to **Bring**

Would be **ACCOMPLISHED**

Thru a **Terrible** and **Suffering DEATH**

Followed by a **RESURRECTION** from **the Dead**

Mark 8:31 (NLT)

31 Then Jesus began to tell them that the Son of Man must suffer many terrible things and be rejected by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but three days later he would rise from the dead.

I pray today – **that you** would **Believe & Receive**

The Truth - that **Jesus IS the Messiah** (Your **Savior**)

BUT – **IF you HAVE** -

Does it **automatically mean**

That you now - **SEE God's Perspective?**

That you now - **SEE God's Timing?**

That you now - **SEE God's Plan?**

**If Jesus were to Begin to Really REVEAL
the ENTIRE PICTURE to you**

**Is there a chance you would react
in a similar way to how Peter reacts in**

Mark 8:32 (NLT)

32 As he (Jesus) talked about this (his death & resurrection) openly with his disciples, Peter took him aside and began to reprimand him for saying such things.

As Jesus begins to lay out

The details of exactly what was going to happen

Peter “takes him aside”

& begins . . . to REPRIMAND Jesus

& the language here

Is like a Parent - Reprimanding a Child

“Now Jesus, I won’t have you talking that way, you need to shape up, & watch what you sayin around here”

& now – if you know this story

You’re already thinking,

“here comes the good part.”

But – We’ve Got to APPLY this to OUR LIVES

The Disciples **THINK they SEE NOW**

The Disciples **THINK they've GOT IT NOW**

Jesus is the Messiah ! – “Ok, we got it . . .”

*“Let’s get on with overthrowing ROME
& setting things up like we see them in our mind”*

How often – do WE THINK - we SEE IT NOW

How often – do WE THINK - we’ve GOT IT NOW

But Really - we’re just ASSUMING

that Jesus is going to DO THINGS
the way we SEE IT in our minds

& we may even (in our heart) Reprimand Jesus a little bit
If we see him veering off our path

So – Peter thinks he’s doing good

giving Jesus a little Fatherly Reprimand –
cause Jesus was getting “Off Track” a little

& Suddenly – Jesus PULLS AWAY from Peter

Mark 8:33 (NLT)

33 Jesus turned around and looked at his disciples, then reprimanded Peter. “Get away from me, Satan!” he said . . .

Peter had become a Carrier – of the DEVIL’S Virus
& that’s WORSE than the COVID Virus

Peter was speaking to Jesus

THE SAME WAY - The DEVIL spoke to Jesus
in the Wilderness, at The Temptation

When Satan tempted Jesus to SHORT-CUT
the Father’s Plan - & Avoid The Cross

Peter had just received the Single Biggest Revelation
from God that there is - (Jesus is the Messiah)

How in the World – is he NOW
joining Satan in hell’s attempt to derail God’s Plan

Here’s HOW – in the remainder of V.33 . . . (*be very afraid*)

Mark 8:33(b) (NLT)

33 . . . “You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God’s.”

THAT’S IT ?

Just seeing things from a HUMAN point of view
causes Peter to Jump on Satan’s Bandwagon???

Yeah – THAT’S IT

What does that mean for you & I – when we try to press God into our HUMAN-VIEW – BOX??

It actually MIGHT mean that same thing – right?

What's My Point today?

**We are wrapping up today
A Critical Three-Message Truth**

#1) There's a time when - YOU CAN'T SEE

**You've been blinded by
your SIN, the WORLD, your FLESH**

#2) There's a time when - YOU SEE IN STAGES

**As the scales begin to fall from your eyes
& the Lord begins to reveal HIS truth to you**

#3) You've got to always ask – CAN I SEE YET?

**If we See that Jesus is Messiah (The Savior)
That's the Big Thing**

But - Can we REALLY See God's PERSPECTIVE Yet?

Can we REALLY See God's TIMING Yet?

Can we REALLY See God's PLAN Yet?

Let's TRUST – The SOVEREIGNTY of God

Let's TRUST - God's PLAN

Let's TRUST – God's Timing

& Let's TRUST Our MESSIAH – Our SAVIOR

& Our Soon & Coming KING

Let's TRUST HIM

& Let's Understand

That we will NEVER SEE FULLY

Until we see him FACE-TO-FACE

Let's Pray