



The Silence of the Lamb

Community Study Guide: Mark 15:1-27 –Week of June 23rd, 2024

1. The Coronation of Jesus

So much of our perception of life is based on the presupposed standard we hold for any given situation. What defines victory? What establishes success? What would it mean to be given an honor? As we read this text about Christ, we see what He submits Himself to. How are we to judge what happens? Is this what the coronation of a king would look like? How would royalty be treated? In this passage, we see strong dramatic irony in the event that unfold. Christ is labeled as the King of the Jews, a title designed to belittle and incriminate. This jest thrown on Him by His enemies is actually a correct charge. They scorn Him, mock Him, beat Him, and would go on to crucify Him. However, the evil actions of these men have an ironic consequence. Their slaughtering of the sacrificial Lamb would ultimately exalt Christ to not only as King of the Jews but to authority over all creation. We see that the coronation of the Son of God was a path of suffering; it was a path of death. His example was to endure, with the knowledge of God's sovereign plan to be executed over the events that transpired. The mockery and scorn resulted in every creature in heaven and earth declaring blessing to the Lamb of God. God's sovereign plan was specifically for these events to occur, that through the evil intentions of man, God might bring about His glorious good. Victory came from apparent tragedy.

2. The Coronation of a Disciple

In this passage, we see this idea of God's blessing

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

God, in His infinite wisdom, has chosen to use the suffering as His servants as the means by which He ultimately glorifies them. The primary example of this is Christ, who endure the greatest suffering and shame, and was/will be rewarded with the greatest praise. He is the example and standard that we follow in our own lives, knowing that God call us into join Christ in His suffering.

Heart

In that suffering, we must remind our heart that the pain is part of God's good plan to bring about His glorious result. All things are transpiring as a blessing to us, so that God might work His good purpose.

Hands

Look to Christ in our suffering. "Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted." Hebrews 12:3

and grace being pour out through suffering. All of Christ disciples have fallen short of their roles. Judas has betrayed, Peter has denied, and all have fled. Yet we see in this passage a man who undertakes the literal cross of Christ. As Jesus had instructed His followers previously, Simon of Cyrene takes up a cross and follows Jesus. For us as Christians, this is another way that our expectations must be conformed. Christ promises that those who follow Him will take up a cross, and will face opposition from the world. For us, one of the standards we should have for ourselves as disciples is to face suffering. It is part of our coronation as a disciple, that reflects the coronation of our Savior.

Read Mark 15:1-27

1. Pastor Andy describes this passage as the Coronation of Jesus. How do we see Christ's coronation? How is this coronation or celebration radically different from the current ones found in Roman times? How is it radically different from our expectations today?
2. How should we respond to travesty and suffering, considering that God used such circumstances to bring about ultimate good?
3. Simon is coronated as a disciple when he takes up the cross of Christ and follows Him. We are called to act likewise. How does this knowledge shape the way you view your current trials in life? How is God using these current challenges to grow you in Christlikeness?
4. One of the temptations when we are bearing our cross is to become embittered or to become complacent. How do you fight these temptations? How do you combat the enemy's strategy?
5. Pastor Andy shared that by sin or divine appointment, we will have seasons of affliction. How do we distinguish between the two? How do we respond to each?
6. If anyone had reason to retaliate against the wounds afflicted on Him, it was Christ. He was pure and sinless. In the moment of crisis, He entrusted Himself to the Father and His will. How can you model this same response to affliction? How can you encourage others to do the same?
7. **Read Isaiah 53** How does this passage increase your understanding of Christ's sacrifice? How does it deepen your understanding of God's grace?