

— THE GOSPEL OF —
MARK

SUFFERING SERVANT & SON OF GOD

Fulfilling the Journey

MEN'S MORNING STUDY

Thursdays, Jan 8 – May 7 @ 6:30 – 7:30a

BAND OF
BROTHERS
HFBCMen.org



MARK 14:53-65

DISCUSSION

Adversity often reveals what's in a man's heart.

Why do you think men are often tempted to respond to hardship by lashing out, shrinking back in fear, or distracting themselves from reality?

YOU SHALL NOT PERVERT JUSTICE

18 “You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. **19** You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. **20** Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the LORD your God is giving you.”

(Deuteronomy 16:18-20)

JESUS' PURITY / INNOCENCE

53 And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. **54** And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. **55** Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. **56** For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree.

PURE “KATHAROS”

- Pure: clean, pure, clear, innocent; free from the contaminating (soiling) influences of sin.
 - True purity proceeds from God, is effected through Christ, and culminates in eschatological glory, while hypocritical or merely ceremonial “cleanliness” leaves the soul unchanged.
 - Paul repeatedly pairs purity with conscience. “They must hold to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience” (1 Timothy 3:9).
 - “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God” (Matthew 5:8).
- Purity is an inner reality that grants fellowship with God

DISCUSSION

What are the benefits that you can think of for having a clear conscience?

JESUS' MEEKNESS

57 And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, **58** “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’” **59** Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. **60** And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” **61** But he remained silent and made no answer.

JESUS' MEEKNESS

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

MEEK “PRAUS”

- **Meek:** God's strength under His control – i.e. demonstrating power without undue harshness; gentleness (reserve) and strength.
- Paul uses the word in Galatians 5:23 when listing “gentleness” as proof of Spirit-governed life, binding meekness to sanctification.
- The Servant Songs (Isaiah 42 and 53) anticipate a Messiah whose quiet submission achieves global justice.
- Matthew 5:5 sets the tone for the term in Kingdom ethics: “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.” The promise links meekness with eschatological reward, echoing Psalm 37:11 and asserting that those who relinquish self-assertion now will receive global dominion in the age to come.

JESUS' MEEKNESS

“No man was ever stronger and meeker than Jesus, the Lion of Judah’s tribe, who stood silent as a lamb before his shearers, offered instructions for his mother’s care with dying breaths, and prayed forgiveness - not curse - for those murdering him.”

-Greg Morse

JESUS' AUTHORITY

61...Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” **62** And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” **63** And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? **64** You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?” And they all condemned him as deserving death. **65** And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophecy!” And the guards received him with blows.

THE CLOUD RIDER

13 “I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him.

14 And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

(Daniel 7:13-14)

JESUS' AUTHORITY

16 If a malicious witness arises to accuse a person of wrongdoing, **17** then both parties to the dispute shall appear before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who are in office in those days. **18** The judges shall inquire diligently, and if the witness is a false witness and has accused his brother falsely, **19** then you shall do to him as he had meant to do to his brother. So you shall purge the evil from your midst. (**Deuteronomy 19:16-19**)

DISCUSSION

- 1.** Adversity often reveals what's in a man's heart. Why do you think men are often tempted to respond to hardship by lashing out, shrinking back in fear, or distracting themselves from reality rather than responding with the meekness that Christ demonstrates in this passage?
- 2.** How do you think living with purity and a clear conscience helps us see God more fully?
- 3.** How are meekness and grace related? What are some practical ways that we can respond with more grace when faced with difficult relational circumstances?