

Walking with Jesus
Part 3
“Jesus flips the Script”

Mark 10

35 Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.”

36 “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.

37 They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.”

38 “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

39 “We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, **40** but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.”

- Despite Jesus speaking of being handed over, crucified and raised from the dead three days later, the disciples still thought that when Jesus got to Jerusalem, He would establish a political kingdom. Here, James and John asked for positions of high status in Jesus’ administration – which they anticipated would happen soon.
- The place of honor was the seat on the right. The place of second honor was the seat on the left. They asked for the two most prestigious places in Jesus’ administration.
- As it would turn out, both James and John took the cup and were baptized in suffering, but they each experienced the suffering in different ways.

- James was the first apostle to be martyred, he was killed by the sword under Herod. According to tradition, John was never martyred, though he survived an attempted murder by being placed in boiling oil.

Revelation 21:14 “The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.”

- Even though James and John hoped for something that wasn't going to happen. They are still named on the foundation of the wall around the New Jerusalem.

Vs. 40

but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.”

- This is a reminder that things in heaven are being arranged. Places are being set and names are being placed. Jesus says about these two seats, “it's not for me to grant”. Every seat in heaven is reserved for a certain person and for a certain reason.

Vs. 41-45

41 When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. **42** Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. **43** Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, **44** and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. **45** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

- The desire for position shows the disciples are eager and ambitious for greatness, but they are going about it the wrong way and still thinking like the world.

Vs. 41 “When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John.”

- This could have quickly become a point of dissension among the disciples. Then Jesus turns this into a teaching moment and flips the script. Jesus explains that the Kingdom work very different, if not opposite from the world.

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- Jesus gives his disciples a “Not so with you” conversation...
- In the Kingdom motives matter and God ways the motives of the heart.
- In the world, motives can go unnoticed, but not with God...
- He positions based upon what he see’s in the heart...

Like with young David, when the Lord lead Samuel to the house of Jesse, the Lord says to Samuel I have not chosen any of David’s brothers. But when the Lord chose David the least of the brothers the Lord says; “The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” **1 Samuel 16:7**

- The world can act how they want but when you belong to the Lord there will be some “Not so with you” moments...
- The world wants to defined many things
- The way relationships look...
- The marriage looks...
- and the way entertainment looks...
- and on and on...
- But if we walk with Jesus and he calls us his own, then expect there to be some “**Not so with you**” conversation from time to time...
- And when he does, we say, Yes Sir...

- In God's Kingdom status, money, and popularity are not prerequisites for leadership. Having a humble servant heart is.
- Real ministry is done for the benefit of those being ministered to, not for the benefit of the minister. Many people are in the ministry for what they can receive instead of for what they can give.

Story: I believe there will be testing moments for a right heart. New Harvest Church of God.

Vs. 45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

- This is one of the greatest claims Jesus made about Himself and His ministry.
- The Son of Man didn't come to be served but to serve and offer his life as payment for many.

Jesus is bringing understanding of the Kingdom of God. He is Flipping the Script from the way the world functions to the way the Kingdom functions.

Matthew 5

21 “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’

22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.

1 John 3:15 Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

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27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’

28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

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31 “It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ **32** But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

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33 “Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’

34 But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all:

— — —

38 “You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’

39 But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.

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43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ **44** But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

- Jesus opens the scripture further than the disciples and the listeners had ever understood...
- Jesus shares the spirit of the law...
- It’s possible some were offended when they heard this, while others were challenged and humbled...
- As we walk with Jesus he gives us Grace to Grow and we are changed into a new person...

Sometimes Jesus flips the Script and other times Jesus flips Tables...

Mark 11

15 On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, **16** and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. **17** And as he taught them, he said, “Is it not written: ‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’ ”

- The temple was a place of sacrifice and worship. People had traveled far and wide to worship and offer sacrifice to the Lord. Yet the temple courts had turned into something that was displeasing to the Lord.
- The temple area became filled with profiteers who worked with the priests and robbed the pilgrims by forcing them to purchase approved sacrificial animals and currencies at inflated prices.
- They did this in the outer courts of the temple, the only area where Gentiles could worship and pray. Therefore, this place of prayer was made into a marketplace. God intended the temple to be a house of prayer for all nations, but they had made it a den of thieves.
- The Lord’s heart burned against this abuse of the people and obstruction of what was meant to be sacred.
- Jesus in an effort to flip the script also flips tables of money changers and benches of those selling doves.
- If there is ever a demonstration of Jesus being angry this is it and proves that not every act of anger is sinful. Sometimes it is necessary.

- Then he begins to teach the people the way it's suppose to be, Jesus says, "Is it not written: 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.' "
- Question: Who is Jesus talking to when he says "You have made it a den of robbers" Jesus once again is speaking to the religious leaders who had the given authority to allow this.
- Some listened and were amazed but others became enraged...

Vs. 18 The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.

In Walking with Jesus may we always have a heart that listens to the Lord...

May we always have a heart that says Yes Sir, when he gives us a specific instruction...

May we always trust him and lay down our will, so we can walk in his will for our lives...

If we do that we will be changed into a different person...

Like Jesus said to Peter in the Chosen, "Get use to Different"