

Mark 8

Love

- Foolishness of Religion; Sin within; Beauty of Humility

I. Feeding 4000

- Jesus time is at hand; Apostles still not getting it
- Jesus continues **unrelenting Love/Compassion**

1 In those days, the multitude being very great and having nothing to eat, Jesus called His disciples *to Him* and said to them, ²“I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. ³And if I send them away hungry to their own houses, they will faint on the way; for some of them have come from afar.”

- Huge Crowds following; Jesus calls disciples...

“I have compassion on the multitude”

- Some come great distance; have nothing to eat

4 Then His disciples answered Him, **“How can one satisfy these people with bread here in the wilderness?”**

Chapter 6: Days earlier

1. Also in deserted place [wilderness]
2. 5 loaves/2 fish/12 small baskets
3. Fed 5000-15,000
4. Jesus had compassion “as sheep without a shepherd”

- Forgetting God’s past faithfulness

5 He asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” And they said, “Seven.”

- ...How many loaves do **you** have?...Seven

6 So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And He took the seven loaves and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and they set them before the multitude.

- Bread multiplied **“in His hands”**

7 They also had a few small fish; and having blessed them, He said to set them also before them. 8 So they ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets of leftover fragments.

- Fish; gave thanks, ate and filled...Seven Large Baskets of Leftovers

9 Now those who had eaten were about four thousand. And He sent them away, 10 immediately got into the boat with His disciples, and came to the region of Dalmanutha.

- 4000 total eat and sent away
- **Immediately:** Jesus/disciples in boat to Dalmanutha

SUMMARY 4000: Same lesson as Chapter 6; i.e. Jesus had compassion, Disciples didn't have a clue. **2nd time failing the same class.**

II. Pharisees: Signs and Leaven

11 Then the Pharisees came out and began to dispute with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven, testing Him.

- **Dalmanutha:** Sin-Sniffers come out from under rock for **3 reasons:**
 1. Dispute with Jesus
 2. Seek a sign from Jesus. A BIG sign. Not just raising dead. Fire from heaven
 3. Test Jesus

12 But He sighed deeply in His spirit, and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Assuredly, I say to you, no sign shall be given to this generation."

"Why does this generation seek a sign?"

- Sighed deeply in His Spirit:
 1. Physical sigh motivated by spiritual revelation **They would not believe**

Matthew 12:38 [Parallel] ...some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." 39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the **sign of the prophet Jonah**. 40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

- **Resurrection** will be your only sign; i.e. Point to who I Am:

John 2:19 ...Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up...21 But he spoke of the temple of his body. [Even after that...]

- **You will still not believe:** Evil rich man in Hades asked Abraham to send someone from the dead to warn his family of this place of torment:

Luke 16:27 [Rich man in Hades] "I beg you therefore, father, that you would send [someone] to my father's house, 28 for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them,

lest they also come to this place of torment.' 29 Abraham said to him, 'They have **Moses and the prophets**; let them hear them.' 30 And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' 31 But he said to him, '**If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.**'"

- **Moses and Prophets:** Denying the word; further unbelief [hard-heart]
- Pharisees sought to kill Lazarus after died once already!
- Religious leaders are...
 1. Blinded by Power
 2. Hardened by hatred

John 12:37 [Read] ...although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, 38 that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: "Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" 39 Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again: 40 "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with their eyes, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them." 41 **These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.** [Isaiah Chapter 6: I saw the Lord high and lifted up, Exalted] 42 Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the **praise of men more than the praise of God.**"

John 11:48 If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation."

- No more signs given except one: **Resurrection**
- **Pharisees** would try to cover that sign: "Say the disciples stole the body"

Matthew 23:15 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

13 And He left them, and getting into the boat again, departed to the other side. 14 Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, and they did not have more than one loaf with them in the boat. 15 Then He charged them, saying,

"...beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod."

- **Leaven:** Yeast corrupts rots dough and spreads throughout

When yeast is added to a mixture of dough, a fermentation process begins as the yeast eats the sugars and releases carbon dioxide gas. The yeast absorbs the oxygen in the dough and begins a reproduction of cells. The yeast cells produce carbon dioxide which causes the dough to rise. In other words, yeast corrupts or takes over the dough and causes it to grow.

- **Leaven: Heretical Teaching** that hinders the truth of God:

Galatians 5:7 You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you. 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

- Beware of the influence of Pharisees and King Herod; what they say about me...
- Starts out as talk [Carbon Dioxide] begins to corrupt, then take over [Cross]

16 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, **"It is because we have no bread."**

- Did Jesus Sigh here? Reasoned among themselves: "What shall we satisfy with?"

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

17 But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, "Why do you reason because you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive nor understand? Is your heart still hardened? 18 Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not remember? 19 When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments did you take up?" They said to Him, "Twelve." 20 "Also, when I broke the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of fragments did you take up?" And they said, "Seven." 21 So He said to them, "How is it you do not understand?"

Do you not perceive/understand?
Is your heart still hardened?

Mark 6:51 Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. 52 For they had not understood about the loaves, **because their heart was hardened.**

- Did not understand about Loaves: God in their midst. King of Kingdom of Heaven
- Their thought were still carnal not spiritual:

Romans 8:6 ...to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

- Why were the disciples hearts hard at both feedings:
- **Mark 6**
 1. Jesus moved with compassion...Sheep without a Shepherd [they were not]
 2. His disciples came to Him and said, "This is a deserted place, and already the hour is late. **Send them away, that they may go** into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat."

- **Mark 8**
 1. Jesus moved with compassion...they were not
 2. His disciples answered Him, "How can one satisfy these people with bread here in the wilderness?"
- **Causes of Hardness of Heart: Mind not set on God exemplified in:**
 1. **Pride:** Boys back from mission; self centered, lack of compassion, send home
 2. **Unbelief:** How can one satisfy???

"How is it you do not understand?"

- Hard unteachable heart vs. Selfless Jesus Heart
- Jesus trying to prepare them...babies. **Could/Should understand...**

Hebrews 5:12 ...though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

SUMMARY: Signs and Leaven: Disciples not ready for hard truths. Jesus will continue to endure as He does with us!

- **Next:** A teachable moment [tied in to previous] lesson on Jesus longsuffering:
 1. **Compassion:** Selflessness
 2. **Sanctification:** God's patience with us

III. Taking Time: Blind Man Healed

22 Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him, and begged Him to touch him.

- "They" are back. Bringing their friend.
- Only gradual healing in Jesus ministry
- Analogy of Jesus coming into view as disciples deny self and see God more clearly
- **First Stage Blind:** We are born blind

23 So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything.

- Grabbed his hand! He grabbed his hand and led him out of town
- Stops. Spits on the blind mans eyes "Do you see anything

24 And he looked up and said, "I see men like trees, walking."

- **Second Stage Sanctification:** Becoming more like Jesus

Romans 8:28 ...we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son

25 Then He put His hands on his eyes again and **made him look up**. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly.

- **Third Stage Seeing Clearly:**
- "Made him look up"? Our hope is vertical and coming in the clouds.

Titus 2:13 ... [We look] for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ "looking up" we see things clearly.

- When we see Jesus we will be forever complete/perfect/whole/forgiven/like Him

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

- Rapture, Death

26 Then He sent him away to his house, saying, "Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town."

SUMMARY: Taking Time

1. Jesus takes time with one man
2. Jesus takes time with us as we slowly become more and more like Him
3. **Next week:** Jesus getting them ready to hear hardest truth they will hear

IV. Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ

27 Now Jesus and His disciples went out to the towns of Caesarea Philippi; and on the road He asked His disciples, saying to them, "**Who do men say that I am?**" 28 So they answered, "John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." 29 He said to them, "**But who do you say that I am?**"...

"Who do men say that I am?"

"...Who do you say that I am?"

- Most Important Question ever answer: **Who do you say Jesus is?**

Luke 2:34 "... Child is appointed...for a sign to be opposed— to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

John 8:24 ... you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that **I am He**, you will die in your sins."

- John the Baptist, Elijah, one of the other prophets, great teacher, Wonderful philosopher, good man, greatest man who ever lived [jw], angel
- Who do you say that I am

S. M. Lockridge

My King was born King. The Bible says He's a Seven Way King. He's the King of the Jews—that's an Ethnic King. He's the King of Israel—that's a National King. He's the King of righteousness. He's the King of the ages. He's the King of Heaven. He's the King of glory. He's the King of kings and He is the Lord of lords. Now that's my King.

Well, I wonder if you know Him. Do you know Him? Don't try to mislead me. Do you know my King? David said the Heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows His handiwork. My King is the only one of whom there are no means of measure that can define His limitless love. No far seeing telescope can bring into visibility the coastline of the shore of His supplies. No barriers can hinder Him from pouring out His blessing.

He's enduringly strong. He's entirely sincere. He's eternally steadfast. He's immortally graceful. He's imperially powerful. He's impartially merciful. That's my King. He's God's Son. He's the sinner's Saviour. He's the centerpiece of civilization. He stands alone in Himself. He's honest. He's unique. He's unparalleled. He's unprecedented. He's supreme. He's pre-eminent. He's the grandest idea in literature. He's the highest personality in philosophy. He's the supreme problem in higher criticism. He's the fundamental doctrine of historic theology. He's the carnal necessity of spiritual religion. That's my King.

He's the miracle of the age. He's the superlative of everything good that you choose to call Him. He's the only one able to supply all our needs simultaneously. He supplies strength for the weak. He's available for the tempted and the tried. He sympathizes and He saves. He's the Almighty God who guides and keeps all his people. He heals the sick. He cleanses the lepers. He forgives sinners. He discharged debtors. He delivers the captives. He defends the feeble. He blesses the young. He serves the unfortunate. He regards the aged. He rewards the diligent and He beautifies the meek. That's my King.

Do you know Him? Well, my King is a King of knowledge. He's the wellspring of wisdom. He's the doorway of deliverance. He's the pathway of peace. He's the roadway of righteousness. He's the highway of holiness. He's the gateway of glory. He's the master of the mighty. He's the captain of the conquerors. He's the head of the heroes. He's the leader of the legislatures. He's the overseer of the overcomers. He's the governor of governors. He's the prince of princes. He's the King of kings and He's the Lord of lords. That's my King.

His office is manifold. His promise is sure. His light is matchless. His goodness is limitless. His mercy is everlasting. His love never changes. His Word is enough. His grace is sufficient. His reign is righteous. His yoke is easy and His burden is light. I wish I could describe Him to you . . . but He's indescribable. That's my King. He's incomprehensible, He's invincible, and He is irresistible.

I'm coming to tell you this, that the heavens of heavens cannot contain Him, let alone some man explain Him. You can't get Him out of your mind. You can't get Him off of your hands. You can't outlive Him and you can't live without Him. The Pharisees couldn't stand Him, but they found out they couldn't stop Him. Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him. The witnesses couldn't get their testimonies to agree about Him. Herod couldn't kill Him. Death couldn't handle Him and the grave couldn't hold Him. That's my King.

He always has been and He always will be. I'm talking about the fact that He had no predecessor and He'll have no successor. There's nobody before Him and there'll be nobody after Him. You can't impeach Him and He's not going to resign. That's my King! That's my King!

Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory. Well, all the power belongs to my King. We're around here talking about black power and white power and green power, but in the end all that matters is God's power. Thine is the power. Yeah. And the glory. We try to get prestige and honor and glory for ourselves, but the glory is all His. Yes. Thine is the Kingdom and the power and glory, forever and ever and ever and ever. How long is that? Forever and ever and ever and ever. . . And when you get through with all of the ever's, then . . . Amen!

29b Peter answered and said to Him, **"You are the Christ."**

- **Mark's Gospel** [Peters Gospel] leaves out some on Jesus words:

Matthew 16:16 [Parallel] [**Caesarea Philippi**] "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."

- God reveled this to Peter
- I will build my church upon this 2 part statement:
 1. **I Am the Christ:** I am came to save
 2. **I am the Son of the Living God:** God the Son
- Peter had been told from the start Jesus was Messiah

John 1:40 ...Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. found first his own brother Simon [Peter] and said to him, **"We have found the Messiah"** (which translated means Christ). 42 [Andrew] brought [Peter] to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

- You are the Christ/Messiah/Anointed One

One we were waiting for!

Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem ... Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, **From everlasting.**"

- He has always been! Always with Father in Heaven

Isaiah 7:14 ...the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.[God with us]

- He is God with us!

Malachi 3:1 ...the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the Lord of hosts.

30 Then He strictly warned them that they should tell no one about Him.

- Messiah would mean something different to most waiting:
 1. Warrior who would free Israel from Roman oppression
 2. Not Savior who would give his life to free world bondage of sin; save from hell
 3. Not a Savior who would be hung on a tree?
 4. Not a Savior that HE would now begin to describe...

V. Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection

31 And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 He spoke this word openly.

- The Son of Man [Messiah] MUST:
 1. **Suffer**
 2. **Rejected:** Ruling Council Elders, Chief Priests, Scribes [Sanhedrin]
 3. **Killed/Murdered**
 4. **Rise Again**
- **Must suffer:** Haven't you read? Isaiah 53
- Spoke openly, plainly, and clearly
- Suffering Savior would be a shock to the listeners...the cross is 6 months away
- **Caesarea Philippi** was where Jesus first reveals the Cross
 1. **Caesarea Philippi**
 - North of Sea of Galilee at the base of SW slope of Mt. Hermon
 - Associated with idol worship [Greek Pan]
 - Pagan deities carved into massive stone façade
 - Jesus referred to this rock on his play on words to Peter
 - What mattered was the apostles own belief concerning Jesus

John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Who do men say I Am. You are the Christ. Why the cross?

32b Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him.

- **Rebuke:** lit. "To chop" cut down what was said; i.e. **"I won't let you do that!"**

33 But when [Jesus] had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying,

- Turned and looked at **His** disciples awaiting a response
- Rebukes Peter saying...

"Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

1 Corinthians 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

Matthew 16:23... "Get behind Me, Satan! **You are a stumbling block to Me;** for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's."

- Satan inspired Peter...tempting Jesus to **forsake suffering, rejection, death**
- Wasn't this a temptation already

Matthew 4 ...the tempter came and said to Him

1. "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." ... "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.'" [Use your power for self]
2. Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 and *said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command His angels concerning You' and 'On their hands they will bear You up, So that You will not strike Your foot against a stone.'"... 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"
3. The devil took Him to a very high mountain and *showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; 9 and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me."..."Go, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'" 11 Then the devil *left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.

- All of these to **"bypass the cross"**. Serve Self. Forsake humanity. Peter did same.
- Peter was a **stumbling block?**

Peter is a perfect example of how a sincere heart coupled with man's thinking can often lead to disaster. [Guzik]

God's interest is in eternal life, man's interest is in temporal satisfaction. In our own plan not God's. Sin

- Sin leads to death

James 1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

"Stage is most dangerous place on earth"

- After exaltation Peter speaks words that if heeded damned all humanity ever existed

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

SUMMARY: Jesus tells boys what must happen for the Savior to save. Rejected by religion, suffer physically from hands of men/spiritually from Father, die, and resurrect.

VI. Denying Self: Backward World

34 When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

- Desire to come after Me? Deny Self, Carry Cross, Follow Me

1. Deny yourself: Great reward

"Denying self is not the same as self-denial. We practice self-denial when, for a good purpose, we occasionally give up things or activities. But we deny self when we surrender ourselves to Christ and determine to obey His will." (Wiersbe)

- Moses
 - a) Raised in the home of Leader of World
 - b) Denied himself for God's greater purpose by...
 - c) Suffering affliction with the Israelite slaves
 - d) Suffering self-denial; enjoyment of passing pleasures of sin
 - e) Looked forward to the Reward

Hebrews 11:24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he **looked to the reward.**

You don't lose a seed when you plant it, though it seems dead and buried. Instead, you set the seed free to be what it was always intended to be. [Guzik]

Matthew 5:11 "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of

evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Luke 6:35 ...love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High.

Genesis 15 ...the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, **your exceedingly great reward.**"

2. Take up your cross

- **Cross:** Not religious symbol but way to execute people slowly
- Take up your cross, bear the cross: **Carrying the cross to the place of death:**

John 19:17 ... [Jesus], bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified Him

Luke 23:26 Now as they led [Jesus] away, they laid hold of a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, who was coming from the country, and on him they laid the cross that he might bear it after Jesus.

- Carry with you instrument of your death: **Humility**
- **Humility is the instrument of death:**
 1. **Self-will**
 2. **Selfishness**
 3. **Self-gratification**
 4. **Self-glorification**
 5. **Self-edification**
 6. **Self-life**
 7. **Kingdom of self...contrasted w/ Kingdom of God**
- **Humility** is the instrument of death to self
- **Humility** is the instrument of Life to God

Deny Self, Take up your cross and Follow Me!

35 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

Philippians 2:1 [Read] Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, 2 fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

- If you know Him be like Him...

3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his

own interests, but also for the interests of others.

- Do nothing to "sit on the throne" of your own life
- Do everything to lift others up "above yourself"
- **Regard others as more important**

5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

- Let this thought process be in you
- Jesus being God emptied Himself let go of that "Right"
- Made Himself [humbled Himself]
 1. No reputation [tell no one]
 2. Came as servant
 3. Stepped out of Glory in w/appearance and w/frailties of men
 4. Humbled Himself [legions of angels at disposal]
 5. Obedient to death [in spite of devil/Peter]
 6. Submissive/Compliant to death on a man-made torture device

9 [Reward] Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father...

- Jesus was obedient in the most difficult things ever asked of someone
- Can we become obedient to the **Word of God in smallest of things?**

...14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom **you shine as lights in the world**, 16 holding fast the **word of life**..

- **We have the Word of Life:** Our life needs to reflect the Word
- **People are dying every second and we are complaining our coffee is not hot!**
- Deny self, Carry our cross [humility] and follow Jesus to Glory

Hebrews 12:1 ... since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the **joy that was set before Him** endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

36 For what will it **profit** a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? 37 Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

He who has dies with the most toys...wins?

He who dies with the most toys still dies

- What will you offer God for your soul to be saved?
- Never see a hearse towing a U-Haul
 1. Car
 2. House
 3. Boat
 4. Gold
 5. Promotions
 6. Portfolio
 7. Power
 8. Fame

“...what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?”

- **Lost Soul:** Opposite of Saved Soul. Die in your sin. Separated from God eternally
 1. Well done good and faithful servant enter into the joy of your Master
 2. I never knew you...depart from me

38 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

- **Ashamed of:**
 1. Life Jesus lived on earth to save sinners. Suffering, Cross
 2. Words Jesus spoke: **That He is the only way**
- Son of Man comes in Glory w/ eternal reward He will be ashamed because...

The medicine, cure, antidote to this Adulterous and sinful world was available but we deprived others of it because we were ashamed!

- **For** whoever is ashamed of Me; i.e. Why are you wasting time/life on things that wont matter. It's all going to burn!

Romans 1:16 ...I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes...

- Ashamed; i.e. fearful of losing what will never matter:

2 Timothy 1: 7 ...God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline. 8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God [so we can say together]

... [We] will not be ashamed; for [we] know in Whom [*not what*] we have believed
2 Timothy 1:12

There was a little girl who was ashamed for a long time of her mother's appearance. You see...her mother had a disfigured face. For a long time this embarrassed the little girl. When she was in preschool and kindergarten all the other kids could see her disfigured mother when she dropped her off at school and when she picked her up at the end of the day. But when she got just a little bit older her grandma shared with her the story of how her mother's face got that way. When this little girl was just a baby, there was a fire in her home. And the mother of this baby girl ran through the fire to save her sleeping daughter. As a result her face was burned so badly that her scars would never heal. But her mother never regretted saving her daughter. And after learning the truth the little girl was never ashamed of her mother's face again. Now she knew those scars were proof of how much her mother loved her. The Bible says that in heaven, and in all His glory, Jesus still bears the scars that came in saving you. And they will be there forever. A reminder of how much God loves you.