



The Gospel of Mark Following Christ

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“The Cost and Reward of Discipleship”

Mark 8:34–9:1

April 30, 2017

Dr. Mark Strauss

Theme: This collection of sayings picks up the theme of Jesus’ passion prediction that precedes and applies it to the disciples and all those who follow Jesus. Whoever wishes to be Jesus’ disciple must renounce their own ambitions and follow Jesus wholly, even to the point of death. Paradoxically, to lose one’s life for Jesus and for the gospel means to gain true (eternal) life.

Outline

1. The Context: Peter’s Confession & Jesus’ First Passion Prediction (8:22–33)
2. The Cost of Authentic Discipleship: Taking up your cross (8:34)

3. The Consequences of Authentic Discipleship (8:35–9:1)

a. Gaining or losing one's life/soul (vv. 35–37)

b. Being unashamed or ashamed at the Son of Man's coming (v. 38)

c. Promise of vindication for the faithful: To see the kingdom of God (9:1)

Takeaway: The great paradox of the Christian life is that by dying to ourselves and the things of this world we gain true life in Christ.

Next Cove:

May 7, 2017

The Transfiguration and the Question about Elijah

Mark 9:2–13