

The Gospel of Mark – Mercy Under Pressure

Mark 10:35-52, August 2, 2026

French Press (Heat and Pressure)

Ground coffee, left in the can, doesn't really do much.

But you immerse it into boiling hot water, add pressure, and what's inside comes out.

WHAT DO YOU DO UNDER PRESSURE?

READ Mark 10:32-35

When you are in a boiling, high-pressure situation, what comes out?

Let's see what's inside

The mark of a godly and mature follow or Christ is that, he or she, will have the heart and mind of a servant.

Philippians 2:5 & 7 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,... made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant,...

In fact, that passage in Philippians goes on...

Philippians 2:8 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.

This is the third of three times that Jesus will predict and foretell of His coming death... and resurrection.

(1 of 3) Mark 8:31

Suffer many things, Be rejected by religious leaders, be killed, and rise again in 3 days.

(2 of 3) Mark 9:31

Adds betrayal, emphasizes death and resurrection

(3 of 3) Mark 10:33-34 (Board game clue)

The most detailed of all the descriptions and notes every major event of the Passover is foretold.

- In Jerusalem
- Delivered to the religious leaders, put on trial and condemned
- Sentenced to death
- Mocked, Spat on
- Whipped and torn
- Killed – spoiler alert, the third day rose again from the dead.

The Good and Great Shepherd would soon be surrounded by a pack of wolves.

THE CLICK of the rollercoaster

And here is the stark contrast between the rich young ruler and the all-powerful Creator Savior. And of course, the unfinished, ever-learning, and unaware work that is the disciples.

NOW, MATTER

Right hand and left hand – like sitting at the head of the table.

Seat of honor, influence, and recognition.

(Think of the Olympic podium. Jesus gets the gold, but can they have the silver and bronze and stand there in all the glory?)

Luke 4:7-11 (When you go to a wedding, don't sit in the bride's seat)

Baptized: Immersed into, fully submerged (Not sprinkled, not sipped)

Drink the cup

To drink it meant to accept what God had appointed

Receive - Experience – Endure (If someone gives a toast, "I'll drink to that")

Psalm 23:5 my cup runs over... abundant or overwhelming blessings

Jeremiah 25:15 drink the fury (Bible fun fact, usually the wrath/judgement)

Note: You don't sip or taste, you consume

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOUR ABILITY TO PROMOTE YOURSELF.

Mark 10:35-41

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOUR ABILITY TO PROMOTE YOURSELF.

The only person that should come to mind right now, is yourself.

Q: Are you willing to suffer what I am about to suffer, experience what I am going to experience?

James (son of Zebedee)

Acts 12:1–2 James is the only apostle whose death is recorded in Scripture.

Where: Jerusalem – When: Around A.D. 44 – How: Beheaded with a sword.

John (son of Zebedee)

How: Most likely died of **old age** after years of ministry.

When: Around **A.D. 95–100**.

Where: Ephesus (modern-day Turkey).

BUT...Tradition: The story is recorded by early church writers, especially Tertullian (late 2nd–early 3rd century) in his work *Against Heresies* (often cited in connection with this event). The tradition says:

- John was brought to **Rome** during the reign of Emperor **Domitian** (around A.D. 81–96).
- Because of his preaching about Jesus, he was sentenced to death.
- He was placed into a **cauldron/vat of boiling oil**.
- God preserved his life, and instead of being killed, John was later **exiled to Patmos**.

Acts 3-4, 5 John persecution with Peter

Go through what Jesus would go through? BOTH WOULD but neither could
Though persecution and death would come for them.
Only Jesus could be the Savior of mankind.

WHAT AN ERROR

When I think that what is important to me, is what is actually important.

The real question: What is important to God?

Grace & Truth

Mercy & Forgiveness

The right and left hand is not;

Not earned by ambition but assigned according to the Father's will.

John 17:4 "I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

Luke 22:42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

John 21:22 Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what *is that* to you? You follow Me."

Are you doing what God has given you to do?

So many live for the future rather than be faithful in the present.

SERVANT OF ALL... in the end, can we say we gave all God asked?

"I just love Jesus" great, not a problem. You love Jesus, honor Jesus, live for Jesus? Then you'll do whatever He says? Love, forgive, take dangerous, selfless steps of faith.

WHAT DO YOU DO UNDER PRESSURE?

JESUS UNDER PRESSURE – **SERVANT OF ALL**, last meal? I'd like to cook for you.

Mark 10:42-45

Ransom: The price paid to liberate captives

Ransom: you are about to be set free. I am going to take care of the cost

- But God must punish sin; cannot just erase it – I know
- But without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins – I know
- But the wages (payment) of sin is death – I know

Summarize Bartimaeus and how Jesus immediately lived out being the servant of all.

Mortality must put on immortality, corruption must put on incorruption, in Christ alone is the transforming power. His mercy that stopped Him mid-stride to heal one outcast beggar. If He did that for Bartimaeus, what would He do for you?

AND HE DID IT WHILE ON HIS WAY TO THE CROSS.

Jesus under pressure = mercy and grace