

Where He Leads, I will Follow – Part A

Mark 10:32-34

Series: Christ our Focus

1. Introduction:

- a. In this portion of Scripture, Jesus will predict his death and resurrection in the third passion narrative.
 - i. Mark 8:31; 9:31
 - ii. This one is the most specific of the three and provides the greatest of details.
- b. Following each of the passion narrative predictions, Jesus is compelled by the disciples' failure to teach the true meaning of discipleship.
 - i. The Disciples' Failure
 1. 8:31 – Peter is rebuked for insisting that the Christian life should be devoid of suffering.
 2. 9:31 – The Disciples were arguing as to who would be the greatest
 3. 10:32 – James and John ask for primacy above the other ten disciples causing great anger
 - ii. Just like then, the Disciples of Christ are marred with a *soft understanding* of the Christian life and what it means to follow Jesus.
 - iii. Just like then, the Disciples of Christ refuse the very clear and foundational teaching that *the Christian life leads through suffering and persecution.*
 1. **Our Master warns us—John 15:18-20** "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. (19) If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. (20) Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.

2. Verse 32 – Jesus on the way

- a. And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem,

- i. Irony – Jerusalem—the city of God; the city of Peace
 - 1. It is this very city that instead of receiving God, persecutes Him the most.
 - a. God the Son is rejected by the city that should have received Him with the highest honor.
 - 2. Christ is the Prince of Peace and yet, the city itself would murder Him.
 - a. God’s mission has been one of reconciliation and peace from the very beginning.
 - b. His birth prophesized God’s intention:
 - i. **Luke 2:13-14** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, (14) "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"
 - ii. They were going up
 - 1. Literally and figurative Christ would be lifted up for the sins of mankind.
 - 2. **John 3:14** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
- b. and Jesus was walking ahead of them.
 - i. Jesus is not lagging behind like a condemned man but instead He is in the lead.
 - 1. This is the only place in the Gospel of Mark were Jesus is said to lead—when he will embrace the cross for our sakes.
 - ii. Jesus leads in example –
 - 1. Will disciples suffer, Christ first led?
 - 2. Are disciples to be humble, Christ first demonstrated humility?
 - 3. Are they to put others first, Christ dies for their sins first and serves them?
 - 4. For each Christian, Christ is our outmost example.
- c. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid.
 - i. The disciples lag behind, they are amazed and afraid.
 - ii. Our discipleship is never as noble, bold, and courageous as we might imagine it to be.
 - 1. They failed to remember the lesson of Scripture:
 - 2. **Joshua 1:9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be

dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

iii. Even though they are afraid, Jesus still accepts them and us.

1. **Hymn—Just As I Am:**

a. Just as I am though tossed about
With many a conflict many a doubt
Fighting within and fears without
O Lamb of God I come, I come

d. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him

i. Even in their fear, the disciples must know the reality of what lies ahead. They must know the expectations and how the Christian life will be developed.

3. Verse 33 – The Specifics – Divine Omniscience

a. saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem,

i. "We,"—Disciples must soberly understand that their fate is intertwined with Christ.

b. Notice the specifics—

i. and the *Son of Man* will be *delivered* over to the chief priests and the scribes,

1. This is Irony

2. The religious leaders are the most guilty

ii. and they will condemn him to death

1. Unjustly

iii. and *deliver* him over to the Gentiles.

1. The Romans for crucifixion.

4. Verse 34 –

a. Specifics continued—Ridicule

i. And they will mock him and spit on him,

ii. and flog him and kill him.

iii. And after three days he will rise."

1. Notice how specifically Jesus understood what was going to happen to him.

b. This was the lot of our Lord.

c. This is the lot of those that are his.

i. **1 Peter 4:12-14** Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. (13) But rejoice insofar as you

share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. (14) If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

- ii. **1 Peter 4:16** Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.
- iii. **1 Peter 4:19** Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

5. Benediction—

- a. **1 Peter 5:8-10** Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. (9) Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. (10) And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.