

THE GOSPEL OF MARK – PART 52

JESUS, THE SON OF GOD – MARK 15:33-41

MOSAIC ROCKFORD – DAVE SPOONER – SEPT 20TH, 2020

Intro:

- Today, we are continuing to focus on Jesus as He fulfills the work, will, and word of the Father by giving himself as the final Passover Lamb that takes away the sin of the world. Last week, we observed “love so amazing” as we saw Him fulfilling Scripture, warning the weeping, forgiving the ignorant, saving the criminal, and providing for His family, all the while enduring unimaginable pain and ridicule.
- At this point in the story, Jesus had been betrayed, beaten, denied, ridiculed, falsely accused, condemned, whipped, tortured, punished, mocked, berated, humiliated, and belittled. And then He was crucified and hung a tree to die a slow and agonizing death, one breath at a time.

JESUS RECEIVED THE JUDGMENT OF GOD

Mark 15:33-36 ESV

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. 34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” 35 And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, he is calling Elijah.” 36 And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.”

- Darkness in both the Old and New Testaments are connected to judgment when it comes during a time when there should normally be light (see Deut. 28:29, Isa. 13:9-10, Joel 2:10, Acts 2:20, Rev. 6:12). There was darkness that lasted for a period of 3 days when Moses was dealing with the pharaoh in Egypt, the final plague before the Passover and the Passover lamb being slain (Ex. 10:21-23). This darkness came over the land as well and lasted for a period of 3 hours (12:00 pm – 3:00 pm) when the sun should have been at its highest; the land was full of darkness as Jesus received the judgment of God. God revealed to the prophet Amos some exact details of the day the Messiah would die.

Amos 8:9-10 ESV

“And on that day,” declares the Lord God, “I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight. 10 I will turn your feasts into mourning and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on every waist and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son and the end of it like a bitter day.

- The exact hour of 12 noon (sixth hour) was mention on the day of God’s judgment. Like the mourning for an only son (John 3:16) and the end of it like a bitter day, this was the bitterest of all days.
- In the judgment of God seen in the plagues on Egypt, darkness came, and then the Lord brought the final blow of His just judgment by taking the lives of the first-born sons. Jesus was the Son that took the right judgment of God as the Passover lamb for the sins of the world. He was “forsaken” (abandoned, discarded) by His Father, which was the most heinous thing of all (imagine being in a perfect, harmonious, committed, eternal, relationship, and then to be forsaken, forgotten, abandoned, rejected). If you want to know how God feels and what God thinks about sin, look to the cross. The cross is what sin deserves; “for the wages of sin is death” (Rom 6:23a).
- Those who were around Jesus thought that He was crying out to be rescued by Elijah (Eloi sounds similar to Elijah), so they gave him bitter wine, the prophesied drink (Psalm 69) on the most bitter of days, as they continued to mock Him.

JESUS COMPLETED HIS MISSION ON EARTH

Mark 15:37 ESV

And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last.

John 19:30 ESV

When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

- Notice that Jesus said, “it is finished,” not “I am finished.” Jesus was gone, but He would not be gone for long. The “it” was His task on earth. Mark tells us earlier in his book the main reason that Jesus came:

Mark 10:45 ESV

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

- The “it” in “it is finished,” is Jesus giving up His life for a ransom for many. And this “ransom” is not buying us back from Satan; it is paying the debt for our sin in which we sold ourselves into (see Rom. 7:14) and have incurred upon ourselves the rightful wrath of God.

Rom 5:8-9 ESV

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

- God's justice requires righteousness and God's righteousness satisfies justice.

2 Cor 5:21 ESV

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- God is both the "just" and the "justifier" for those who have faith in Jesus (See Rom. 3:26).

JESUS OPENED THE WAY TO THE FATHER

Mark 15:38 ESV

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

- Not far away from where Jesus was crucified was the temple mount and the temple itself. The curtain in the temple was the curtain that separated the "holies of holies" from the holy place, and it was around 3 ½ inches thick and perhaps 30 feet by 30 feet. It was interwoven with cherubim and acted as the separation between the people and God. This was the curtain that was torn in two from top to bottom. This was done in a way that only God could do this, and it was not just a small tear, but it was "torn in two." Jesus's death opened the way to the Father.

Heb 10:19-25 ESV

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

- We enter the presence of God because of the blood of Jesus. He is the new and living way to God (therefore an end to the temple sacrificial system). We can enter the presence of God; we can draw near to God with a true heart (made true by Christ) in full assurance of faith.
- Jesus received the judgment of God; Jesus completed His mission on earth, Jesus opened the way to the Father. Truly this man was the Son of God.

TRULY THIS MAN WAS THE SON OF GOD

Mark 15:39 ESV

And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

- The Gospel of Mark opens with these words.

Mark 1:1 ESV

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

- The whole book tells the story of Jesus, where He went, what He said, what He did, what happened around Him. Each story and account brings more evidence of who He really was. Near the middle of the book, the question is asked from Jesus, “Who do you say that I am?” and Peter answer correctly, “You are the Christ.”

Mark 8:29 ESV

And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.”

- Mark then continues to tell the story, and near the very end of the book, he records the first words of the centurion soldier, “Truly this man was the Son of God!” Based on the evidence that is provided from this book, you have to make a choice as well, “Who do you say that I am?” If He truly is the Son of God, then His life is no ordinary life, His words are no ordinary words, His deeds are no ordinary deeds, and His death is no ordinary death. There is no one like Him; truly, this man is the Son of God.
- Mark then gives us a foreshadowing of the resurrection by linking His death and resurrection by these women who were physically present at both His death and resurrection and personally witnessed all these things.

Mark 15:40 -41 ESV

There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. 41 When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

Conclusion

- Knowing what Jesus did is important. Knowing what Jesus accomplished is critical. Knowing who Jesus was is essential. Knowing Jesus and putting your faith in Him is vital in this life and the life to come.

Acts 4:12 ESV

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

- Place your faith in Him, commit your life to Him, honor Him for who He is and what He does. Hold fast to the promises that we have in Him.
- Pray