

Is This the Way of Messiah?

Mark 8.27 – 9.32

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Telos: This section of Mark emphasizes the characteristics Messiah and all that follow him.



Introduction

- A. Mark sets off this section by means of an “inclusio” in 8.27-33 and 9.30-32.

- B. Mark wants you to understand the **radical nature** of this Messiah, his people and his authority.

- C. God turns the world upside down in terms of what you should expect when it comes to this Messiah.

I. Jesus Is The Messiah, But What Kind of Messiah? (8.27-33)

- A. The disciples recognize Jesus, this teacher of theirs, as the Messiah, the "Anointed One."

- B. However, they do not understand the **NATURE** of his Messianic work or the path that Messiah must tread.

C. So Jesus, obviously recognized as the Messiah, must suffer, die, be resurrected, and *this all of God!!*

D. This is the way of our king – his glory is of a radically different nature.

II. Jesus Leads A Movement, But What Kind of Messianic Movement? (8.34-38)

A. Jesus leads a Messianic Movement and those of us who claim to be part of it *must resemble our leader.*

B. Look at what Jesus says and do some serious thinking about it.

C. So, the people who are part of this great Messianic movement must lose their lives *FOR* Messiah & *LIKE* Messiah.

D. *Where do we characteristically need to deny selves, take up our crosses and follow Jesus?*

E. Is this the common way that people think when they think of following Jesus?

III. Jesus Has Authority, But What Kind of Authority? (9.1-13)

A. What does this Messianic Movement involve – *it means that its leader has FULL AUTHORITY.*

B. On the mountain, the disciples see Jesus, Moses & Elijah conversing with one another.

C. But what is of *utmost importance is what God the Father says,*

"This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!!"

D. We can know this **theologically**, but how can we know this **EXPERIENTIALLY** (How will this change me)?

IV. Jesus Can Perform Miracles, But What Does He Really Desire? (9.14-32)

- A. Jesus does not want to perform some miracle.
- B. The point of the story seems to be "Everything is possible for him who believes" (v. 23).
- C. The disciples lacked faith.
- D. Do we expect Jesus to do IMPOSSIBLE things?
 - **How does this section end?**
- E. With another discussion of Messiah's death.

Conclusion

- A. God turns our whole value system upside down in Jesus.
- B. Yet, this "upside down" Messiah & Kingdom has ultimate authority in our lives – Christ is our King and we must obey him and trust him.
- C. Above all, we must always understand life and ministry from this "upside down" perspective.