

**"CHRISTMAS SERIES: JESUS CHRIST REVEALED IN THE GOSPELS"**

**"JESUS CHRIST REVEALED IN MARK'S GOSPEL"**

**"THE SERVANT OF GOD AND MANKIND"**

**MARK 10:35-45**

**INTRO:** During the Christmas Season, a great focus is placed upon JESUS CHRIST'S BIRTH, and RIGHTLY SO. We think of how He was born and placed in the MANGER. We think of how His Birth was announced to the SHEPHERDS. We think of how the MAGI visited and worshipped Him with precious gifts. But often, we FAIL TO REALIZE that **FOUR GREAT BOOKS OF THE BIBLE (THE GOSPELS OF MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, AND JOHN)** present Jesus Christ precisely the way GOD WANTS US TO SEE HIM in order that we will HONOR AND SERVE HIM properly. Last week, we noted that in the GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, Jesus is revealed as **THE KING OF THE JEWS**. Today, we shall note that in the GOSPEL OF MARK, Jesus is revealed as the **SERVANT OF GOD AND MANKIND**. Certainly, we SHOULD REJOICE in the SERVITUDE OF CHRIST because it was such an attitude that **DROVE JESUS CHRIST TO THE CROSS TO PROVIDE REDEMPTION FOR ALL OF MANKIND**.

**OBSERVATIONS:**

- 1) In the Gospel of Mark, **Jesus's actions are emphasized MORE than His teachings**. In fact, Mark records 18 Miracles of Christ revealing His **SERVANT ATTITUDE**.
- 2) In our text we see a **CONTRAST** between **SELF-CENTERED HUMANITY** and **GOD-CENTERED SERVICE**. The actions of two disciples (James and John) shows **SELF-CENTERED HUMANITY**, whereas the description of Christ shows **GOD-CENTERED SERVICE**. **A QUESTION TO CONSIDER: WHICH ACTION DO WE LIVE OUT?**
  - James and John were **SELFISH** and wanted to be EXALTED by Christ.
  - Jesus was **SELFLESS** and HUMBLed HIMSELF for all of mankind.

**THE PICTURE OF A SERVANT:**

- 1) A Servant is Humble – **So was Christ (Philippians 2:6-8)**
- 2) A Servant Serves – **So did Christ (John 13:1-18)**
- 3) A Servant Pleases Others – **So did Christ (Romans 15:1,2)**

**CHRIST'S IDENTIFICATION OF HIMSELF IN OUR TEXT:**

- 1) Christ Identifies Himself as the **SON OF MAN**. (Revealing His Humanity)
  - Used 14 times in Mark and 80 times in all four Gospels
- 2) Christ Identifies His **PURPOSE..."TO MINISTER."**
  - The word "MINISTER" is "DIAKONOS" which means **"SERVANT."**
- 3) Christ Identifies His intended **ACTION..."TO GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM."**
  - To act as a **SUBSTITUTE**.

**IN SCRIPTURE CHRIST IS REVEALED AS A SERVANT:**

- 1) Prophetically: Isaiah 52:13; 53:12; Zechariah 3:8
- 2) Actually: Philippians 2:5-8

**HOW DID CHRIST SERVE?**

**I. CHRIST SERVED BY YIELDING TO THE WILL OF HIS FATHER**

- A. As seen in John 6:38
- B. As seen in Mark 14:36
- C. As seen in Hebrews 10:5-7

**II. CHRIST SERVED BY MINISTERING TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS**

- A. Through Presenting Divine Truth to Others
- B. Through Performing Divine Miracles for Others

### III. CHRIST SERVED BY DYING ON THE CROSS

"TO GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM FOR MANY"

- A. He "GAVE" – A Voluntary Action of Service (He did not need to be begged or forced).
- B. He GAVE His "LIFE" - Paying the WAGE OF SIN...DEATH!
- C. He GAVE His LIFE a "RANSOM"
  - 1. It refers to a **PAYMENT** to effect the release of a **SLAVE**.
    - This was NEEDED because we are ALL SLAVES under the POWER of SIN and DEATH and CANNOT free ourselves – Romans 5:12; 6:20
  - 2. It refers to a **SUBSTITUTION** for another.
    - The **ULTIMATE SERVANT (JESUS CHRIST)**, PAID THE ULTIMATE PRICE (DEATH ON THE CROSS) TO SET PEOPLE FREE FROM SIN!
    - Note: Romans 6:22 and Hebrews 2:14,15
- D. He GAVE His LIFE a RANSOM "FOR"
  - 1. The word "FOR" reinforces the idea of SUBSTITUTION.
  - 2. The word "FOR" means **"IN PLACE OF."** (Cp. Mark 14:24)
- E. He GAVE His LIFE a RANSOM FOR "MANY"
  - 1. "Many" is used in the inclusive sense of "ALL."
  - 2. "Many" presents the amazing concept that **A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE RECEIVE REDEMPTION FROM THE SINGLE SACRIFICE OF ONE...JESUS CHRIST!**
    - Romans 5:15-

#### LESSON AND APPLICATION:

##### HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND TO THE SERVITUDE OF CHRIST?

- 1) By Rendering PRAISE unto Him.
- 2) By Following HIS EXAMPLE of SERVICE.

JESUS CHRIST SERVED AS A "DEACON" (DIAKONOS) FOR US, LET US SERVE AS A DEACON FOR HIM!

CHRIST SERVED THE FATHER AND THE HUMAN RACE TO THE VERY BEST OF HIS ABILITY, SO WE SHOULD ALSO SERVE HIM IN THE SAME WAY.

DO WE?