



Lesson 48 – The Law of the New Kingdom

Based on Matthew 20:20-28; Mark 10:32-45; Luke 18:31-34.

- 1) Immediately after Lazarus was raised from the dead, what happened?
John 11:47-48 Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for this man doeth many _____. If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him: and the _____ shall come and take away both our place and nation.
- 2) What did Caiaphas the High Priest have to say about it?
John 11:49-50 And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the _____ that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation _____ not.
- 3) What conclusion did the Sanhedrin come to?
John 11:53 Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to _____.
- 4) What did Jesus do knowing their plottings?
John 11:54 Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the _____; but went thence unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there continued with his disciples.

The time of the Passover was drawing near, and again Jesus turned toward Jerusalem.

- 5) How did the Disciples feel about it?
Mark 10:32 And they were in the way going up to Jerusalem; and Jesus went before them: and they were amazed; and as they followed, they were _____. And he took again the twelve, and began to tell them what things should happen unto him,

In His heart was the peace of perfect oneness with the Father's will, and with eager steps He pressed on toward the place of sacrifice. But a sense of mystery, of doubt and fear, fell upon the disciples.

- 6) What did Jesus tell the Twelve?
Luke 18:31-33 Then he took unto him the twelve, and said unto them, Behold, we go up to _____, and all things that are written by the _____ concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished. For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spitted on: And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall _____ again.
- 7) How much of what He said was understood?
Luke 18:34 And they understood _____ of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.

Had they not just before proclaimed everywhere, ***"The kingdom of heaven is at hand"***? Had not Christ Himself promised that many should sit down with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of God? Had He not promised to all who had left aught for His sake a hundredfold in this life, and a part in His kingdom? And had He not given to the twelve the special promise of positions of high honor in His kingdom, to sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel? Even now He had said that all things written in the prophets concerning Him should be fulfilled. And had not the prophets foretold the glory of the Messiah's reign?



In the light of these thoughts, His words about betrayal, persecution, and death seemed vague and shadowy. Whatever difficulties might intervene, they believed that the kingdom was soon to be established.

8) Along the way, what request did James' and John's mother make?

Matthew 20:20-21 Then came to him the _____ of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy _____ hand, and the other on the _____, in thy kingdom.

John and his brother James had been among the first group who had left all for His service. Gladly they had forsaken home and friends that they might be with Him; they had walked and talked with Him; they had been with Him in the privacy of the home, and in the public assemblies. Jesus had quieted their fears, delivered them from danger, relieved their sufferings, comforted their grief, and with patience and tenderness had taught them, till their hearts seemed linked with His, and in the ardor of their love they longed to be nearest to Him in His kingdom.

Their mother was a follower of Christ and had ministered to Him freely of her substance. With a mother's love and ambition for her sons, she coveted for them the most honored place in the new kingdom. For this she encouraged them to make request.

9) How did Jesus reply to the request?

Mark 10:38 But Jesus said unto them, Ye know not what ye ask: can ye _____ of the cup that I drink of? and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?

Jesus bears tenderly with them, not rebuking their selfishness in seeking preference above their brethren. He reads their hearts; He knows the depth of their attachment to Him. Their love is not a mere human affection; though defiled by the earthliness of its human channel, it is an outflowing from the fountain of His own redeeming love. He will not rebuke but deepen and purify.

10) What was their reply to Him?

Mark 10:39 And they said unto him, _____ . And Jesus said unto them, Ye shall indeed drink of the cup that I drink of; and with the baptism that I am baptized withal shall ye be baptized:

before Jesus was a cross instead of a throne, two malefactors His companions at His right hand and His left. John and James were to share with their Master in suffering; the one, first of the brethren to perish with the sword; the other, longest of all to endure toil, and reproach, and persecution.

11) What did Jesus add to His reply?

Matthew 20:23 And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my _____, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not _____ to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

In the kingdom of God, position is not gained through favoritism. It is not earned, nor is it received through an arbitrary bestowal. It is the result of character. The crown and the throne are the tokens of a condition attained; they are the tokens of self-conquest through our Lord Jesus Christ.



12) What promise did Jesus make to the church?

Revelation 3:21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his _____.

Revelation 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the _____ of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

13) What did Paul tell Timothy in his final letter to him?

2 Timothy 4:6-8 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my _____ is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my _____, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that _____ his appearing.

The one who stands nearest to Christ will be he who on earth has drunk most deeply of the spirit of His self-sacrificing love.

14) What else did Paul have to say about it?

1 Corinthians 13:4-5 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not _____ up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no _____;

15) Were the other ten Disciples happy with John and James?

Matthew 20:24 And when the ten heard it, they were moved with _____ against the two brethren.

16) What did Jesus say to stop the jealousy among the Disciples?

Matthew 20:25-26 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise _____ over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall _____ among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

17) What did He add to that?

Matthew 20:27-28 And whosoever will be _____ among you, let him be your _____: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

18) Why does God give us blessings?

2 Corinthians 4:15 For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the _____ of _____.

Redound: To Contribute greatly

In the kingdoms of the world, position meant self-aggrandizement. The people were supposed to exist for the benefit of the ruling classes. Influence, wealth, education, were so many means of gaining control of the masses for the use of the leaders. The higher classes were to think, decide, enjoy, and rule; the lower were to obey and serve. Religion, like all things else, was a matter of authority. The people were expected to believe and practice as their superiors directed. The right of man as man, to think and act for himself, was wholly unrecognized.

Christ was establishing a kingdom on different principles. He called men, not to authority, but to service, the strong to bear the infirmities of the weak. Power, position, talent, education, placed their possessor under the greater obligation to serve his fellows.



19) What did Jesus have to say about that?

Mark 10:45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to _____, and to give his life a _____ for many.

Among His disciples Christ was in every sense a caretaker, a burden bearer. He shared their poverty, He practiced self-denial on their account, He went before them to smooth the more difficult places, and soon He would consummate His work on earth by laying down His life. The principle on which Christ acted is to actuate the members of the church which is His body. The plan and ground of salvation is love. In the kingdom of Christ those are greatest who follow the example He has given, and act as shepherds of His flock.

20) What did Paul tell the believers in Corinth?

1 Corinthians 9:19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might _____ the _____.

21) What did John say?

1 John 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to _____ our lives for the brethren.

This was the spirit that pervaded the early church. After the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, ***“the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that aught of the things which he possessed was his own.”*** ***“Neither was there any among them that lacked.”*** ***“And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.”***

Can you see Jesus’ plans are bigger than ours?

Would you rather have the place of God’s own choosing?

When is the time to put Him first?

