

The King Lives: Our necessary response to the King

Mark 8:27-38

Introduction

1. Disciples of King Jesus are clear about the nature of the Gospel (Rom.1:1-4)

In Rom.1:1-4 Paul gives us a summary statement of the Gospel

The Roman letter begins like this:

“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures³ regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David,⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared (NIV and ESV/NASB) with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom.1:1-4)

1. The nature of the gospel

1. The origin of the Gospel (1:1)

2. The focus of the Gospel: Jesus' humanity—His lineage (1:3; Ps.89:3-4; Is.9:6-7; (So too Is.11:1-5,10; Jer.23:5,6; Ezek.34:23-24)

3. The focus of the Gospel: Jesus' deity (1:4; Matt.26:62-65)

4. The focus of the Gospel: The work of Jesus (1:4)

1. Jesus died to fulfill all the OT pictures of substitution—the perfect dying for the imperfect

2. The proof of Christ's deity (1:4)

2. What is the nature of a disciple? (Mk.8:27-29)

1. The disciple of Christ has a particular confession (Mk.8:29; Matt.16:16)

2. By what means does a person arrive at this confession with conviction? (Matt.16:17; Jn.9:5-7)

2. Disciples of King Jesus are known by how they live out the gospel (Mk.8:34-37)

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

³⁵ For whoever wants to save their lifeⁱⁱⁱ will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?

³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? (Mk.8:34-37)

1. The basis of discipleship: The logical necessity of being a disciple

2. What needs to be done: The fundamentals of discipleship (Mk.8:34)

1. The necessity of self-denial (Mk.8:34; Matt.20:27-ESV; Rom.6:22-NIV/ESV; 2Cor.4:5-NASB; Phil.1:1-NASB; 1Pet.2:16 NASB; Lk.22:42)

2. The acceptance of hardship (Mk.8:34)

3. The unique lifestyle (Mk.8:34; Jn.17:15)

4. The right mindset: The principle of "saving but losing" and "losing but saving" (Mk.8:35)

1. Saving but losing (Mk.8:35; Lk.12:13-21)

2. Losing but saving (8:35)

1. Unqualified denial

2. Qualified denial (8:35; Mk.1:33-38; Jn.6:14-15)

5. Rejection of Christian discipleship (Mk.8:38)

1. Rejection of Jesus (8:38)

2. The consequences of denial

Conclusion

2 Peter 3:10-14