

Jesus Sets His Face Towards Jerusalem



Jesus instructs the three apostles not to tell anyone what they had seen.

- Matthew 17:9 As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man has risen from the dead."
- Mark 9:9-10 "As they were coming down from the mountain, He gave them orders not to relate to anyone what they had seen, until the Son of Man rose from the dead. They seized upon that statement, discussing with one another what rising from the dead meant."
- Luke 9:36b "And they kept silent, and reported to no one in those days any of the things which they had seen."

3 Sequels to the Transfiguration

- 1. The Elijah Question by the Disciples (Matthew 17:9-13; Mark 9:9-13; Luke 9:37-45)
- 2. The Other 9 Disciples and the Demoniac (Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29)
- 3. Jesus again foretells His death and resurrection (Matthew 17:22-23)

Evidently...

- The experience of the transfiguration had reinforced these men's faith in Jesus' messianic claims.
- But there was one other matter that confused them in that regard, and so they put the question to Jesus at this strategic time.

The three apostles ask concerning the charge that Jesus cannot be Messiah because Elijah had not yet come.

• Matthew 17:10-13 -

10 And His disciples asked Him, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" 11 And He answered and said, "Elijah is coming and will restore all things; 12 but I say to you that Elijah already came, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they wished. So also the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands." 13 Then the disciples understood that He had spoken to them about John the Baptist.

On the following day, the 9 apostles are unable to drive a demon out of a boy.

Let's Note carefully Mark's account; it is the fullest of the three and it includes very interesting and important details.

Turn to Mark 9:14-29

Two Observations

- 1. Luke 9:37 "On the next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met Him."
 - Notice that Luke is explicit that this occurred the day after the transfiguration.
- 2. Mark 9:14 "When they [Jesus, Peter, James, & John] came back to the disciples [the other 9], they saw a large crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them."
 - And Mark is clear that it was the other disciples who were unable to do this.

Matthew 10:1, 8a

- 1 Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.
- 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons...

So, the Question is:

Why do you think these men were unable to deliver this boy?

Matthew 17:22-23

22 And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men; 23 and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day." And they were deeply grieved.

Notice:

- Jesus, having begun speaking of His coming death a few days earlier (Matthew 16:21), will return to the subject several times; nonetheless, the apostles do not ever accept the message.
- Notice how the apostles respond to the message this time:
 - Matthew 17:23 "And they were deeply grieved."
 - Mark 9:32 "But they did not understand this statement, and they were afraid to ask Him."

An Important Detail

"The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."

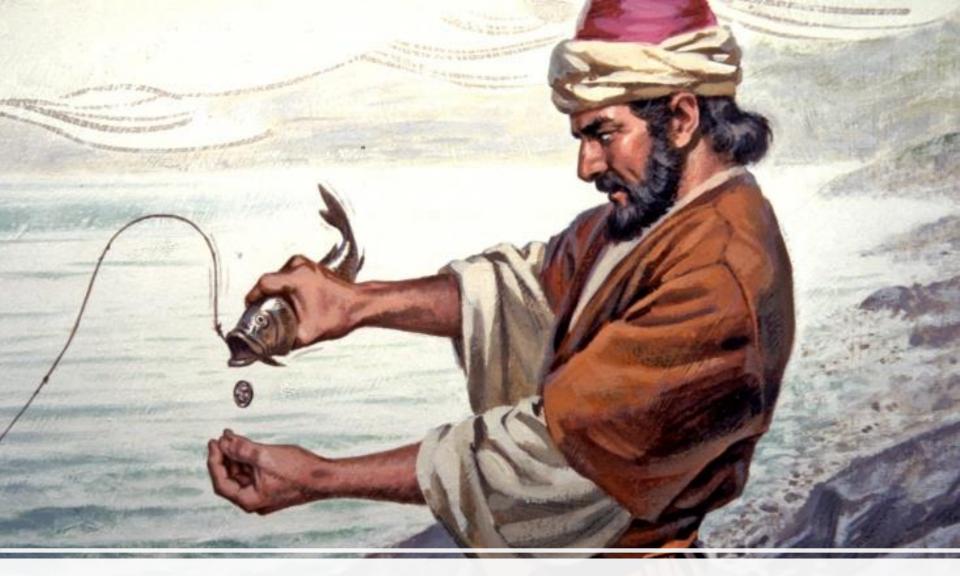
παραδίδωμι (paradidōmi)

KJV: "The Son of man shall be betrayed"

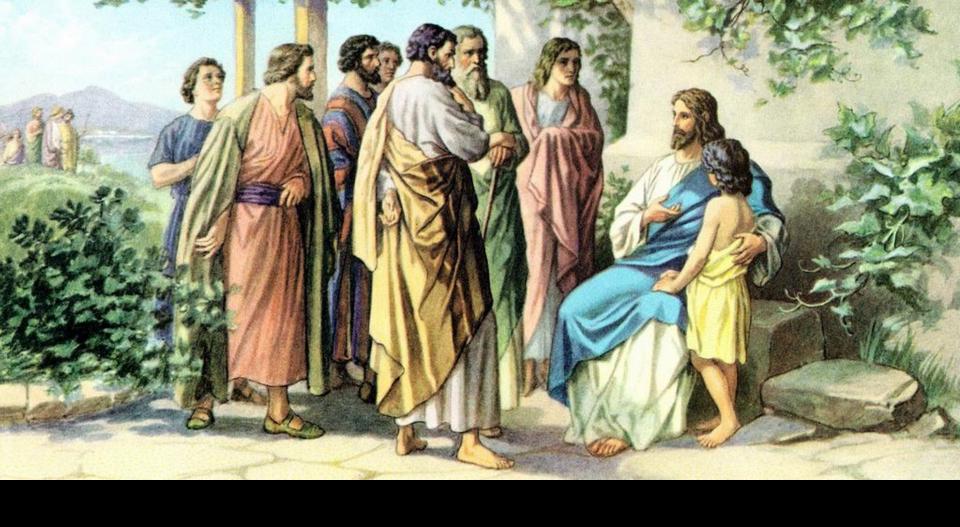
One More Time... Through Galilee

•Matthew 17:24 –

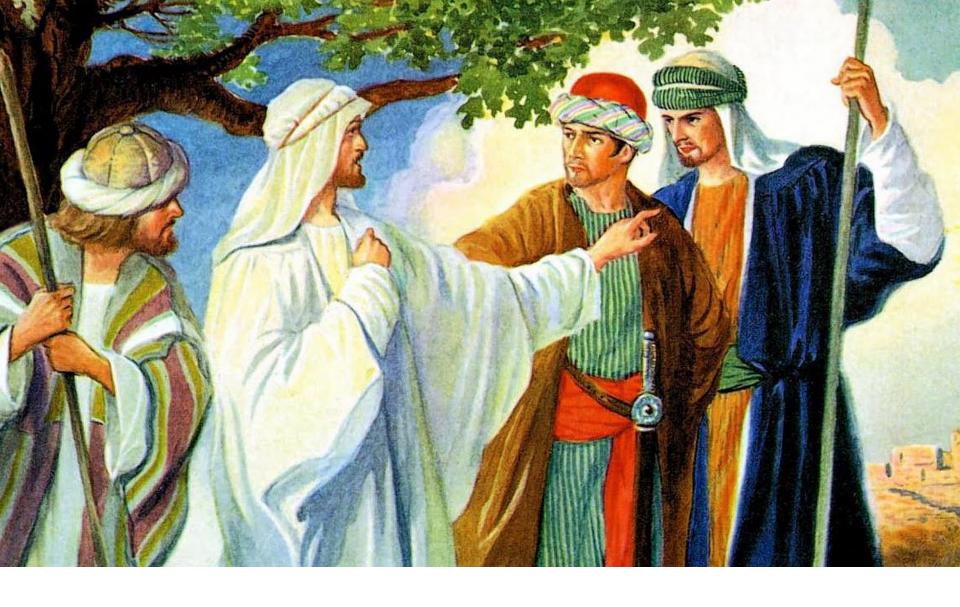
"When they came to Capernaum..."



Matthew 17:24-27



Matthew 18:1-5



Mark 9:38-41



Matthew 18:6-14





Matthew 18:15-35

Discipline, Prayer, & Forgiveness

Luke 9:57-62 The Demands of Discipleship

At This Point in Our Study:

- 3 of the 3½ years of Jesus' public ministry have passed.
- In other words, Jesus is now within 6 months of His passion.
- The rejection by Israel is manifest, and Jesus is yet struggling to prepare His disciples for the awful events soon to occur.

3 Distinct Truths to Note:

- 1. The insensitivity and lack of understanding of the disciples (and the sorrow this causes Jesus)
- 2. The hardness of Israel (and the increasingly brazen character of it)
- 3. Jesus absolute control over the circumstances leading up to His death (so that the will of the Father is perfectly accomplished)

John 7:30

"So they were seeking to seize Him; and no man laid his hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come."

Note:

The events of these last 6 months are best understood in relation to 3 trips to Jerusalem made by Jesus during this time.

We must harmonize all four gospels in order to properly understand the chronology of this period.

Harmonizing Process

- Matthew and Mark omit this period, and thus we follow these months only in Luke and John.
- Therefore, harmonization is a bit difficult for this period, because there are only a few places where those two Gospels both record the same event (which is key to the harmonizing effort).

"Coincidentally" Enough...

Luke's Gospel records 3 instances where Jesus departs for Jerusalem (9:51; 13:22; 17:11)

And

John's Gospel narrates the events of 3 separate visits to Jerusalem or its environs (7:2ff; 10:22ff; 11:1ff).

And So...

- The two narratives fit together nicely when this reality is recognized:
 - Luke narrates Jesus' travels beyond Jerusalem, as well as the times when He sets out to go to Jerusalem (or its immediate environs).
 - John, on the other hand, picks up the narrative when Jesus arrives in Jerusalem and relates His ministry in that place.

Trip #1

- 1. To Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles
- Early October
- Departure Luke 9:51
 - "When the days were approaching for His ascension, He was determined to go to Jerusalem"
- Narrative of Events John 7:2-10:21



John 7:2-9

Jesus' Unbelieving Brothers

John 7:10

10 But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up, not publicly, but as if, in secret.

Luke 9:51-56

51 When the days were approaching for His ascension, He was determined to go to Jerusalem; 52 and He sent messengers on ahead of Him, and they went and entered a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for Him. 53 But they did not receive Him, because He was traveling toward Jerusalem. 54 When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" 55 But He turned and rebuked them, [and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; 56 for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them."] And they went on to another village.



John 7:11-13

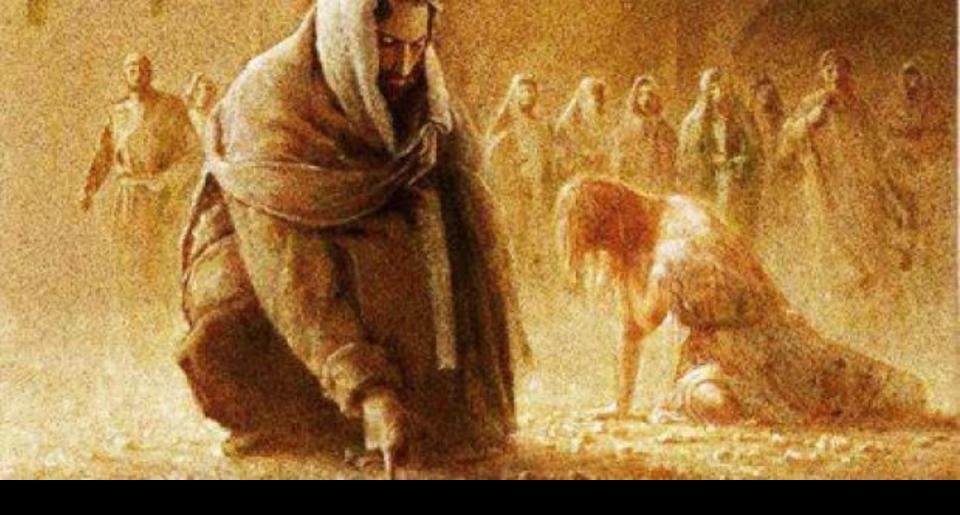
11 So the Jews were seeking Him at the feast and were saying, "Where is He?" 12 There was much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him; some were saying, "He is a good man"; others were saying, "No, on the contrary, He leads the people astray." 13 Yet no one was speaking openly of Him for fear of the Jews.

Notice:

That by this time Jesus is very much the center of thought among the Jews, both the leadership and the common man.

Remember...

Since the cleansing of the Temple early in Jesus' ministry (John 2), he has not caused a stir in Jerusalem, the home turf of the Sadducees.



Next Time:

Jesus' Teaching
Threatens
Everything

