

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What was the cross of Jesus?
2. What is the cross of man today?
3. What does verse 23 mean?
4. How can man be Jesus' disciple today?
5. What does it mean to deny yourself?
6. Do you have joy in Jesus' presence?

SUMMARY:

So often we think that things should be different, and as Peter said, so we say: "Be it far from me, this shall not be." God knows our hearts and certainly what is best for us and our soul's salvation. Jesus said, "if any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross, and follow me."

Witnessing the transfiguration, the three disciples were overjoyed in His presence, but then were overcome with needless fear in the cloud with God's voice speaking to them. How wonderful it must have been to feel the comforting, assuring hand of Jesus upon them.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #12

March 20, 2022

First Quarter

CHRIST, THE GLORIOUS MASTER

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 16:21-28; 17:1-13

LESSON SETTING: In the region of Caesarea Philippi-25 miles north of the Sea of Galilee. Several days later Jesus went up on a high mountain accompanied by three disciples, Peter, James and John.

TIME: About 32 A.D.

- I. THE KING'S CROSS.** Matthew 16:21-28
 - A. Discipleship. Luke 14:26-27; John 15:8
 - B. Self Denial. Romans 8:13; 15:1; Galatians 5:24
 - C. Leaving All. Luke 14:33; 18:29-30; Philippians 3:8
- II. THE KING'S GLORY.** Matthew 17:1-8
 - A. Joy in His Presence. John 14:3; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23
 - B. Christ Glorified. John 1:51; Revelation 5:12
- III. THE KING'S INSTRUCTION.** Matthew 17:9-13
 - A. Sufferings Predicted. Luke 9:22; John 3:14
 - B. His Pre-eminence. Romans 14:9; Colossians 1:18; Hebrews 1:4

GOLDEN TEXT: *THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED; HEAR YE HIM.* Matthew 17:5

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Mark 9:14-29

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 1 Kings 18:17-40

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ - King and Savior

TOPIC: CHRIST, MASTER OF DEMONS

INTRODUCTION:

Although Satan is terrifyingly strong, Christ is still Master over Satan's demons. We cannot fully realize how terrible Satan's power is, but he must leave where the Spirit of Christ is. His demons may torment us with doubts and fears, with pain and illness, but if we are God's children, we know He is Master over all. He has all power over all demons.

Sometimes we feel as if all is darkness and the demons hold full sway. Then the Holy Spirit brings to our remembrance that God is still in His heaven and watches over all. What a wonderful assurance we have of God's power! Nothing can befall us but with what His power can cope. Our faith is often tested by His delay in proving His power and like the boy's father we cry out with tears, "Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief."

A sinner is bound by the demons who have control of his heart, but Christ can set him free. However, the sinner must choose to be set free, to surrender, to give up self, to repent and to accept Christ as his Master. It is up to each individual to make the choice.

CENTRAL TRUTH: God bestows His favor and blessing on those who are pleasing to Him.

GOLDEN TEXT: *ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO HIM THAT BELIEVETH.*

Mark 9:23

God is the source of all power. It is "in Him we live, and move, and have our being." (Acts 17:28a) All of this power has been given to Christ, the Son of God. Jesus said: "*All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth.*" (Matthew 28:18) Unless God permits, man can do nothing. How truly Jesus said to His disciples, "Without me ye can do nothing." It is in the weakness of man that God's power is manifested.

If we realize our own weakness, we can by faith have access to the power of God. After many experiences in the service of the Gospel of Christ, Paul could write, "*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*" (Philippians 4:13)

May we continually be encouraged in faith to enlist the power of God in our battles with the evil one. Our faith in God's grace insures a winning outcome.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Mar. 21 – 27

M. *The Disciples—Defeated by Demons. Mark 9:14-22

T. *Christ, Master of Demons. Mark 9:23-29

W. The Contest with Baal. 1 Kings 18:26-24

T. The Failure of False Prophets. 1 Kings 18:25-29

F. Elijah's Simple Prayer. 1 Kings 18:30-37

S. God's Mighty Response. 1 Kings 18:38-46

S. God's Victory over Idols. Daniel 3:16-28

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