


The Christ Must Die; So Must His Disciples


Luke 9:18 - 27

Presented by Bob DeWaay
December 2, 2007



Questions about Jesus' Identity

- Luke 3:22 "This is My beloved Son"
- Luke 4:22 "is this not Joseph's son"
- Luke 5:21 "who is this man who blasphemes"
- Luke 7:16 "a great prophet has arisen"
- Luke 7:19 "are You the expected one"
- Luke 7:39 "if this man were a prophet"
- Luke 7:49 "who is this man who forgives sins"
- Luke 8:25 "who is this who commands the winds and water"



Jesus' Identity revealed and concealed

- Luke 9:9 "who is this man" (Herod asked)
- Luke 9:18 "who do the multitudes say I am"
- Luke 9:20 "who do you say I am"
- Luke 9:22 "the son of man must suffer"
- Luke 9:35 "this is My son . . . Listen to him"
- Luke 9:44 "the Son of Man is to be delivered into the hands of men"
- Luke 9:45 "they did not understand . . . It was concealed from them"



Jesus raises the identity question

■ Luke 9:18

And it happened that while He was praying alone, the disciples were with Him, and He questioned them, saying, "Who do the people say that I am?"



The consensus is that Jesus is a prophet

■ Luke 9:19

They answered and said, "John the Baptist, and others say Elijah; but others, that one of the prophets of old has risen again."



Peter answers correctly for the group


■ Luke 9:20

And He said to them, "But who do **you** say that I am? " And Peter answered and said, "The Christ of God."



Affirmations of Christ


- Luke 2:11 “who is Christ the Lord” (angel)
- Luke 2:26 “the Lord’s Christ” (Holy Spirit to Simeon)
- Luke 4:18 “Today this [Messianic] scripture is fulfilled” (Jesus)
- Luke 4:41 “they knew Him to be the Christ” (demons)
- Luke 9:20 “The Christ of God” (Peter)



Because of popular misconception about “Messiah” there is to be no public proclamation now

- **Luke 9:21**

But He warned them and instructed them not to tell this to anyone,



The suffering and death of Messiah is a divine necessity

- **Luke 9:22**

saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed and be raised up on the third day.”



The shocking terms for discipleship

■ Luke 9:23, 24

And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it."



Crucifixion in Judea before Christ according to Josephus

- Antiochus Epiphanies (167 BC)
- Alexander Jannaeus (88 BC)
- Quintilius Varus (4 BC)



The shocking terms for discipleship

■ Luke 9:23, 24

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Opposite choices with opposite results

■ **Luke 9:23** “wills or purposes to come after”

Disavow self; take up cross; follow Jesus

Results: loses self-serving life; saves his soul;

■ **Luke 9:24** “wills or purposes to save his life”

Does not deny self, take up cross or follow

Results: saves “self” now and forfeits his soul



The highest possible honor (gaining all the world has) is contrasted with the worst possible shame (cross bearing)

■ **Luke 9:25**

For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?



Cross bearing was the ultimate shame; but following the crucified One will mean eschatological glory

■ **Luke 9:26**

“For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”



Some of the disciples would soon see a foretaste of eschatological glory

■ **Luke 9:27**

"But I say to you truthfully, there are some of those standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."



Applications and Implications

- 1) It was necessary for Christ to be rejected because of God's compassion toward all
- 2) Cross bearing means disavowing a life of self fulfillment in this world
- 3) Any "gospel" that is a means of saving one's worldly life is a false gospel



- 1) It was necessary for Christ to be rejected because of God's compassion toward all

■ **Romans 11:12**

Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be!



2) Cross bearing means disavowing a life of self fulfillment in this world

■ **1John 2:15, 16**

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.



2) Cross bearing means disavowing a life of self fulfillment in this world

■ **1John 2:17**

The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.



2) Cross bearing means disavowing a life of self fulfillment in this world

■ **1Peter 4:1, 2**

Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.



3) Any "gospel" that is a means of saving one's worldly life is a false gospel

■ **Acts 20:23, 24**

"except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me. But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God."