

**Mt 20:17** ¶ Now Jesus, going **up to Jerusalem**, took the twelve disciples aside on the road and said to them, 18 "**Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death,**

19 "**and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will rise again."**

- “This he said in the hearing of the disciple who would act the traitor: (*Judas Iscariot*) did no compunction visit his base heart?”... “And still is he betrayed! If the gospel dies in England, write on its tomb, ‘Betrayed.’ If our churches lose their holy influence among men, write on them, ‘Betrayed.’ What care we for infidels? What care we for those who curse and blaspheme? They cannot hurt the Christ. His wounds are those which he receives in the house of his friend.” “When our Lord told the twelve that he would die, they imagined that it was a parable, concealing some deep mystery. They looked at one another, and they tried to fathom where there was no depth, but where **the truth lay on the surface.**” (Spurgeon)
- **Lu 18:34** But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken.
- How many times have we betrayed the Lord our God by being so focused on “other things” we did not understand what was being spoken to us by the Lord, in plain hearing.
- What were the disciples thinking, what occupied their thoughts? Read on.

20 ¶ **Then the mother (Salome) of Zebedee's sons (James and John)** came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.

21 And He said to her, "**What do you wish?**" She said to Him, "**Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom.**"

- Jesus had already pronounced their rewards, in **Mt 19:28** So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. But these seemed to want to be considered for a position of authority above the others and now.

22 But Jesus answered and said, "**You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?**" They said to Him, "**We are able.**"

- Little did they know that indeed they would suffer for Christ, James was the first apostolic martyr, John was not martyred but it was not for their lack of trying.

23 So He said to them, "**You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.**"

24 And when **the ten** heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers.

- It was obvious these two wanted to “lord it” over the others, and the others were upset they tried. Now Jesus is tasked with weaving the disciples back together as a group.

25 But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "**You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.**

26 "**Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.**

27 "**And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave--**

28 "**just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.**"

- **Jas 4:6,10** But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."... **10** Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.
- **Joh 13:12-17** So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? **13** "You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. **14** "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. **15** "For **I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.** **16** "**Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.** **17** "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

29 ¶ Now as they went out of **Jericho**, a great multitude followed Him.

30 And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, "**Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!**"

- Mark 10 reveals one of these blind men to be Bartimaeus.

31 Then **the multitude** warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, "**Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!**"

32 So **Jesus stood still** and called them, and said, "**What do you want Me to do for you?**"

- Notice clearly He did not rebuke them for calling Him Lord nor by His Hebrew title Son of David. In His silence, He openly declared He was indeed the Lord Jesus Christ the promised Messiah.
- To prove it, He healed these two blind men.
- The same Messiah is walking amongst us today, all we need to do is call upon Him.
- **Ro 10:12** ¶ For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all **is rich to all who call upon Him**.
- **Jas 5:14,15** Is anyone among you sick? **Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him**, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and **the Lord will raise him up**. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

33 They said to Him, "**Lord, that our eyes may be opened.**"

34 So **Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes**. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.

- Can that be our prayer? That we acknowledge we are spiritually blind and need the healing touch to open our eyes and hearts to His truth. When we do, then the natural response will be to follow Him
- Warren Wiersbe; states at the closing of this chapter;  
"This chapter contains some hard things for us to receive and practice. If we love the things of this world, we cannot love God supremely. If we are not yielded completely to His will, we cannot obey Him unreservedly. If we seek glory for ourselves, or if we compare ourselves with other believers, then we cannot glorify Him.

We cannot acknowledge Jesus as our King unless we love Him supremely, obey Him unreservedly, and glorify Him completely. But if we do these things, we will share in His life and joy, and one day reign with Him!"