

Jesus' Knowledge of His Death

Mark 10:32-34

October 6, 2013

Introduction

One of the things we need to be clear is that Jesus knew when He was going to die and why. His death was not an accident or a bad misfortune of having His plans changed and being killed. No, Jesus had intimate knowledge of who He was and what was God's plan for Him. We need to remember Jesus' first recorded words in **Luke 2**.

Luke 2:49 *And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"*

Even at the young age of twelve, Jesus knew the purpose of His coming. He came to do His Father's business or His will. He did what the Father wanted Him to do. He knew that His purpose was to die and redeem humanity from its bondage to sin. We see the conclusion of Jesus' first recorded words in His cry of "It is finished." On that cross, when everything that the Father wanted Him to do, He completed His Father's will with perfect obedience and results.

His purpose was to die for His people's sins and redeem them and bring them to salvation for eternity. Jesus' purpose was foretold by the prophets in the Old Testament and by the angel to Mary and Joseph. The angel told Mary and Joseph that His name would be Jesus which means "YHWH saves " and revealed to them God's plans for Jesus.

All three gospels record at three separate times of Jesus informing His disciples of His impending death. He gives them specific details concerning His death and His resurrection. In Mark, the first recorded statement concerning His death is in **8:31**.

Mark 8:31 *He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that He must be killed and after three days rise again.*

When they were on their way to Caesarea Philippi, Jesus told them His death after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Son of God

The second time Mark records Jesus' statement concerning His death is in **Mark 9**. He adds this detail about being betrayed.

Mark 9:31 *because He was teaching His disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill Him, and after three days He will rise."*

Finally, He tells them on the way to Jerusalem.

After each revelation, He adds extra information about His suffering and death. Jesus was not surprised, and He knew through Scripture and His own omniscience the when and how His death will occur.

I. Jesus Knows Through Scripture (32)

Mark 10:32-34 *They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again He took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to Him.*

- They were on their way to Jerusalem
 - Jerusalem sits 2,500 feet above sea level
 - 3,500-3,800 feet above Dead Sea
 - It's always going up to Jerusalem
 - They are traveling from Jordan River through Jericho to Jerusalem
- Jesus leading the way
 - He is the leader of this crowd
 - He was not dragged to Jerusalem against His will
 - He was not encourage by the crowds to attend Passover
 - He had one purpose in going to Jerusalem—to be the Lamb of God as the sacrifice

Luke 9:51 *As the time approached for Him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.*

John 2:19 *Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."*

Note: Emphasis on Jesus knowing His purpose even before going to Jerusalem. Note the two times: Luke—after the last Galilean ministry; John—soon after His baptism.

- Disciples were astonished while those who followed were afraid
 - Disciples were astonished
 - Why?
 - They know the opposition by the Jewish leaders
 - Jesus is going to Jerusalem where the Jewish leaders are
 - They were scared and confused
 - He told them that He was going to Jerusalem to die
 - They thought they might die as well

John 11:16 *Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."*

- While those who followed were afraid
 - Who are those?
 - Not disciples, but other followers
 - They were afraid because they had Messianic expectations—overthrow Rome and new peace and prosperity for Israel
 - He is going to the area where He is most reviled—much confusion and fear in His decision
- Yet they still follow Him!
- He took the Twelve aside and told them
 - He reminds them what will happen to Him

Luke 18:31 *Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled."*

- He knows what was going to happen because of Scripture

Note: The teachers of Israel did not have a good understanding of Scripture. They did not apply the proper approach that would give us a faithful understanding of Scripture. They elevated their own knowledge to almost Gnostic, mystical view that they only knew.

Illustration: Many, many years were passed in building the tower. It reached so great a height that it took a year to mount to the top. A brick was, therefore, more precious in the sight of the builders than a human being. If a man fell down, and met his death, none took notice of it, but if a brick dropped, they wept, because it would take a year to replace it. So intent were they upon accomplishing their purpose that they would not permit a woman to interrupt herself in her work of brick-making when the hour of travail came upon her. Moulding bricks she gave birth to her child, and, tying it round her body in a sheet, she went on moulding bricks. (*From Haggadah—“Tower of Babel”—reason why God confused their language—they deemed material things more important than human life.*)

- What Scripture should the disciples know that talk about His suffering and death?
 - **Psalms 2**—rage of His enemies against Him
 - **Zechariah 11:12**—Betrayed for 30 pieces of silver
 - **Zechariah 13**—His friends will desert Him
 - **Numbers 21**—Lifting up the snake in wilderness—cross lifted up (see John 3)
 - **Psalms 34:20**—no broken bones
 - **Psalms 22:18**—His clothes gambled
 - **Psalms 69:21**—given vinegar to drink
 - **Psalms 22:1**—My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?
 - **Psalms 22:31**—It is finished
 - **Zechariah 12:10**—spear into the side
 - **Psalms 16**—Resurrection
 - **Psalms 110**—His ascension into heaven
 - **Isaiah 53**—Suffering Servant as sacrifice to redeem His people

II. Jesus Knows Through His Omniscience (33-34)

33 *"We are going up to Jerusalem," He said, "and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn Him to death and will hand Him over to the Gentiles, 34 who will mock Him and spit on Him, flog Him and kill Him. Three days later He will rise."*

- We're going to Jerusalem
 - This is the place where God will provide the perfect sacrifice

Genesis 22:8, 13-14 *Abraham answered, "God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together. 13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."*

Note: Mount Moriah

- The mountain where Abraham was at? In Jerusalem area
- Perhaps the exact same place where Abraham sacrifice the ram—Jesus crucified

- Son of Man will be betrayed
 - Jesus knew the heart of men—He knew what they were thinking (**John 2:24-25**)
 - Betrayed
 - By Judas
- Psalms 41:9** Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.*
- Rejection
 - Rejected by all the High Priests and scribes (teachers of the law)
 - They will condemn Him to death
 - Jewish religious leaders condemned Jesus with no legitimate witnesses or accusations
 - Jesus completely innocent—even Pilate recognized this
 - Hand Him over to Gentiles
 - Who will mock Him
 - Roman soldiers mock Jesus
 - Made crown of thorns, purple robe, and scepter
 - Spit on Him and flog Him
 - Kill Him
 - Jesus even predicted how He will die

***Matthew 20:19** and will turn Him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day He will be raised to life!"*

- This is the first time that the cross is mentioned
- He knows it all in detail

***Isaiah 53:3** He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.*

Note: Scripture talks about sufferings of Christ. He knew sorrow everyday—He wept over Jerusalem for their rejection. He wept over Lazarus' death. He asked the Father to remove the cup of suffering if it was His will. He knew that all this would take place, yet He went with ultimate resolve to the cross.

- Three days later, He will rise
 - He even predicts His glorious victory
 - There is no hesitation or doubt what He is going to do
 - There is no doubt to the outcome