Son of David, Have Mercy on Me!

Jesse LaRue · Mark 10:46–52

INTRODUCTION

- These two stories serve as sort of literary bookends surrounding three major predictions of Jesus about his impending death and resurrection.
- We live in a day and age where mercy is not a very highly valued virtue. We live in the midst of a cancel culture. And cancel culture shows no mercy.
- He shows us that in his own willingness to extend mercy to those who society would have deemed unworthy of it.

1 Jesus, Son of David, Have Mercy on Me

Mark 10:46–47

- Rahab the harlot being a prime example of someone whose faith saved them. Being the prime example of someone who received mercy, even though by worldly standards she was undeserving.
- He is desperate to get Jesus' attention. He is crying out as loud as he can. Desperate to be noticed, determined to be heard.
- The Messiah was promised to come through the line of David, and so he recognizes Jesus for who he is. Though he is blind, physically, he sees what he ought to have seen.
- To receive mercy can be a blessing that's an act of divine favor or compassion, compassionate treatment of someone who is in distress.

2 Many Rebuked Him, But He Cried Out All the More

Mark 10:48

- Many rebuked him, telling him to be silent.
- Given the popularity of Jesus, this socially insignificant blind man is considered to be a nuisance, a bother, an interruption.
- It's one thing for people in the world to say be quiet about Jesus. It's another thing when people in the church say to be quiet about Jesus.
- When the world tells us to be quiet, what should we do? We should be unashamed. We should cry out all the more.

3 And Jesus Stopped

Mark 10:49; Hebrews 7:26–8:6; Hebrews 4:14–16

- The master of the universe has a time to stop and take notice of one person. No matter how seemingly insignificant they are.
- What does Jesus do when we cry out? He stops to help. He helps those who cannot help themselves.

- We have a servant in Jesus. What does a servant do? They stop and help. That's their job.
- Let us then, with confidence, draw near to the throne of grace that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

4 What Do You Want Me to Do for You?

Mark 10:49–51

- When Jesus calls, we answer and we answer quickly. There's no hesitation here.
- Jesus asks the obvious question in order to give the blind man the opportunity to express his trust in Jesus.
- We likewise oftentimes need to examine ourselves and see what we're lacking. Are we lacking in sight? Are we lacking in hearing? Are we lacking in faith?

5 Go Your Way, Your Faith Has Made You Well

Mark 10:52

- What was it that enabled this man's healing? Once again, as with all of our other examples this week, it was his faith.
- Jesus does the work of healing, but we have to believe and trust and obey in order to enable that power to work upon us.
- Obedience and action were required to activate the power of Jesus.

6 He Followed Him on the Way

Mark 10:17–27; Mark 10:52

- Bartimaeus calls Jesus the son of David, whereas this rich young ruler simply calls him good teacher.
- He has wealth, he has power, he has knowledge, he's been a model Jew. And yet he rejects the call. Because he's attached to his worldly riches.
- He said, go your way. But what happened? His way became Jesus' way.
- He decided that spiritual wealth was much more important than earthly wealth.

THE CHALLENGE

And so we have to frame the question for ourselves and put it in the right perspective. What do we have to lose? And the right answer is nothing of consequence in this life.

MY NOTES