

## BAD NEWS THAT IS GOOD

--MARK 8:27-33--

### INTRODUCTION:

The question that must be answered by every person, the most important question anyone can ever answer is, “Who is Jesus Christ?” Why is it so important? Because a person’s response to this question determines their eternal destiny. This question as to who Jesus is forms the heart of this passage. The disciples have been with Jesus for more than two years now. From the very beginning they had hoped that He was the promised Messiah. In this passage the fact that Jesus is the Messiah, and the Son of God goes from hopeful expectation to heart-fixed certainty as the apostles through their spokesman Peter state this truth with greater conviction and confidence than ever before. This passage is not only the center point of Mark’s Gospel, but it is also the climax and the conclusion of Jesus’ training of the Twelve. This passage might be looked at as their final exam, an exam of only two questions.

### I. PETER’S CONFESSION (Mark 8:27-30)

- a. If you remember from two weeks ago, Jesus had healed a \_\_\_\_\_ man outside the village of Bethsaida.
- b. Mark tells that as they were on their way to the villages of Caesarea Philippi Jesus begins their final \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Mark writes, “*He questioned His disciples, saying to them, ‘Who do \_\_\_\_\_ say that I am?’*” (Mark 8:27b, NASB95)
- d. The disciples immediately began to answer Jesus, giving Him the varied \_\_\_\_\_ of the people.
- e. Mark writes, “*And He continued by questioning them, ‘But who do \_\_\_\_\_ say that I am?’*” (Mark 8:29, NASB95)
- f. The disciples, like all first century Jews, had been raised with the expectation that the \_\_\_\_\_ would overpower Israel’s enemies and establish His kingdom in Jerusalem. (Matthew 11:2-3)
- g. Peter speaking for all of the disciples as He often did, answered and said to Jesus, “*You are the \_\_\_\_\_.*” (Mark 8:29b, NASB95) (Matthew 16:16)

- h. This \_\_\_\_\_, this conviction concerning who Jesus is was not of their own doing. (Matthew 16:17)

### II. PETER’S CONFRONTATION (Mark 8:31-33)

- a. The disciples through Peter had declared that they believed that Jesus was the \_\_\_\_\_ and the Son of God.
- b. Mark writes that Jesus began to teach them about His \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. As Jesus began to tell the disciples what would take place in the months ahead, He explained to them that He \_\_\_\_\_ suffer many things. (Acts 2:23)
- d. The suffering that Jesus would endure meant that He would be \_\_\_\_\_ by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. (Matthew 12:40; John 2:19)
- e. As you can imagine this news of His impending death sent the disciples \_\_\_\_\_. (Psalm 16, 22, 69; Isaiah 53; Zechariah 11:12-13, 12:10)
- f. In resistance to what Jesus was plainly telling them, Peter went from being a spokesman for God to being a mouthpiece for \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 16:22)
- g. Peter had been shocked by Jesus’ announcement of His impending death, but it must not have even remotely compared to what Jesus said to him next, it must have \_\_\_\_\_ Peter to the core. (Matthew 16:23)
- h. On the surface what Peter did appears noble, his reaction was motivated by the thought that the Lord and Messiah whom he \_\_\_\_\_ would be rejected and murdered.
- i. When Jesus said to Peter, “*Get behind Me, Satan*” it must have felt like Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ him with a deathblow.
- j. Remember how intensively the devil tempted Jesus in the wilderness at the beginning of His ministry, it is important to understand that Satan’s \_\_\_\_\_ did not stop there. (Luke 4:13)

### CONCLUSION:

Peter overstepped his place, allowing Satan to use him that day near Caesarea Philippi, but he would soon come to understand and cherish the cross deeply. Less than a year later, on the day of Pentecost, he would boldly stand in Jerusalem with the other apostles and proclaim the gospel of a crucified and resurrected Messiah. As Peter was nearing the end of his life, he wrote two little epistles to believers in Asia Minor. Peter explained the glorious significance of the crucifixion in 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:18, *“For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;”* (1 Peter 3:18, NASB95) What the disciples considered to be the ultimate bad news on that day near Caesarea Philippi was, in reality, the best news the world has ever received. It was the very heart of the plan of redemption. When Jesus spoke of His death and resurrection He was giving the full gospel message. By dying and rising again on the third day, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, paid the full penalty for sin and by His resurrection He conquered death, sin, and Satan, so that all who believe in Him might have eternal life. *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”* (John 3:16, NASB95)