

"Why then is it written that the Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected?"

A. Intro: The Simple Gospel: Love (G.R.O.W. = Given, Rejected, Offered, Wins)

B. Sermon in a Sentence: *The Kingdom of God belongs to those with child-like faith.*

C. Context of Today's Question

Jesus continues to share revelations about his identity and purpose with his truth-impaired disciples. Even a mountaintop experience of God's glory shining through Jesus doesn't yet awaken them to the simple truth of the Gospel.

Jesus' question (9:12) essentially asks us, **Why does he need to die for us?** If we see ourselves as merely blemished humans instead of spiritual corpses, we too will remain distracted, dull, and ultimately dead in our faith.

D. MARK 9:1-13 (NIV)

¹ And he said to them, "I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) ⁷ Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" ⁸ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. ¹⁰ They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant. ¹¹ And they asked him, "Why do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?" ¹² Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah does come first, and restores all things. **Why then is it written that the Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected?** ¹³ But I tell you, Elijah has come, and they have done to him everything they wished, just as it is written about him."

E. Why is Jesus asking us this question?

1. We have a COMPREHENSION problem.
2. We have a COMPLICATION problem.

F. Small Group or Individual Study Questions

1. What is the most powerful object you have seen up close?
2. How has Jesus revealed his true nature to you?
3. How do you see Jesus fulfilling his purposes in our world today, despite the turbulence?
4. Read Mk 9:1-13 again slowly. Circle the word or phrase which God's Spirit seems to highlight for you. Ask God why He did this. How is this meaningful for you today? Now, pray and ask God what He wants you to do about what He has revealed to you.

G. Racism Resource

<https://www.epm.org/blog/2020/Jun/15/shai-linne-shares-experience?fbclid=IwAR1fkAmE9V108lLFk7BuxvcbvY0ZOQ1KwothF9ktt9yve9OV7ewOvdrHD-M#.Xud-rpHnWVM.facebook>