

Read: Mark 8:27-33

Day 8

“Hard Lessons for Hard Times”

He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. But when Jesus turned and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” He said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

-Mark 8:32-33

Insight Into The Word: The Master’s Rebuke

In this passage, we see The Master displaying several things:

1. Jesus has an **unchanging agenda** to go to Calvary.
2. Jesus has an **unyielding attitude** to Peter’s emotions!
3. Jesus has a **non-negotiable commitment** to The Father’s plan!
4. Jesus has an **undying love and loyalty** to humanity and its redemption!
5. Jesus has an **act of grace** because God was gracious with Peter! (He could have destroyed him for his outbursts, rebukes, and satanic suggestions.)
6. Jesus has an **act of mercy** because God was merciful to Peter! (By all rights, calamity should have been his for getting too casual with God.)

Jesus rebukes Peter, speaking directly to the one who influenced him to say such a thing (Satan). Peter was not Satan, but Satan was lurking in the crowd, waiting and watching for someone he could tempt in the fellowship. You see, Satan wanted Jesus to by-pass Calvary because he knew that if Jesus fulfilled the Scriptures, humanity would be saved from sin. So, he tried to use Peter’s emotions to change Jesus’ mind. And as a result, Peter tried to argue with God!

When you are I argue against what the Word of God says, we too must be rebuked. Jesus saw the future, and He knew what was needed in order to save us. He had to go to Calvary to pay redemption’s price and take away our sins. Without His sacrifice, Peter, the disciples, and all of humanity would not be saved. God knows the future, so in the situations we face, we should not argue with God. If His Word says it, we must obey it!

Thought to Ponder:

When have you responded like Peter? What was the outcome?