

A Study of Mark – Lesson 31

Mark 10:35-52 The Request of James and John

10 ³⁵ Then James and John, / the sons of Zebedee, / came to him. / “Teacher,” / they said, / “we want you to do / for us / whatever we ask.”

³⁶ “What do you want me to do for you?” / he asked.

³⁷ They replied, / “Let one of us sit at your right / and the other at your left / in your glory.”

³⁸ “You don’t know what you are asking,” / Jesus said. / “Can you drink the cup I drink / or be baptized with the baptism / I am baptized with?”

³⁹ “We can,” / they answered.

Jesus said to them, / “You will drink the cup I drink / and be baptized with the baptism / I am baptized with, /⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left / is not for me to grant. / These places belong to those / for whom they have been prepared.”

⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, / they became indignant / with James and John. / ⁴² Jesus called them together / and said, / “You know / that those / who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles / lord it over them, / and their high officials / exercise authority over them. / ⁴³ Not so with you. / Instead, / whoever wants to become great among you / must be your servant, / ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first / must be slave of all. / ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man / did

Copyright © 2011-2013 by Glenda Reece. Permission is granted to provide printed copies for use in your ESL/Bible classes, but only if the copies are provided at no cost to the students and contain this entire document including all copyright statements. Copying in any form is prohibited for all commercial purposes or any purpose other than the one specifically allowed above.

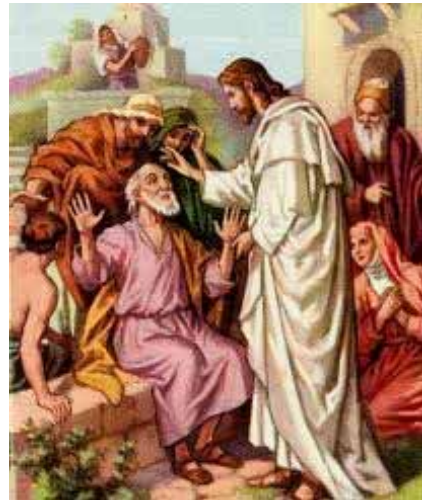
Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc®. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

not come to be served, / but to serve, / and to give his life / as a ransom for many.”

⁴⁶Then they came to Jericho. / As Jesus and his disciples, / together with a large crowd, / were leaving the city, / a blind man, / Bartimaeus / (which means “son of Timaeus”), / was sitting by the roadside begging. / ⁴⁷When he heard / that it was Jesus of Nazareth, / he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” / ⁴⁸ Many rebuked him / and told him to be quiet, / but he shouted all the more, / “Son of David, / have mercy on me!” / ⁴⁹Jesus stopped and said, / “Call him.”

So they called to the blind man, / “Cheer up! / On your feet! / He’s calling you.” ⁵⁰ Throwing his cloak aside, / he jumped to his feet / and came to Jesus. / ⁵¹ “What do you want me / to do for you?” / Jesus asked him.

The blind man said, / “Rabbi, / I want to see.”



⁵² “Go,” / said Jesus, / “your faith has healed you.” / Immediately / he received his sight / and followed Jesus along the road.

Vocabulary

1. **Glory:** Splendor, heaven, in praise of deity.
2. **To drink the cup:** Go through death

3. **Beggar:** Somebody who begs for money or food from strangers; somebody who is very poor.
4. **Persistent:** Tenaciously or obstinately continuing despite problems or difficulties; Existing or continuing for a long time

Questions

1. Why do you think Bartimaeus would choose this place to beg for money?
2. What did Bartimaeus do to attract the attention of Jesus?
3. What is uproar? Was Bartimaeus persistent? What did he want Jesus to do?
4. Bartimaeus called Jesus the *Son of David*? What did that mean?
5. Do you think Bartimaeus had faith that Jesus could actually make him see again?
6. Bartimaeus began with a need, went on to gratitude, and finished with loyalty. Do you think those are the stages of discipleship?

Notes

1. A few facts to realize:
 - Jericho was a city just 15 miles from Jerusalem.
 - Jesus was going to Passover.
 - The religious law said that every male over 12 years of age must attend the Passover.

- Those unable to go customarily lined the streets and cheered on the pilgrims as they went.
 - Jericho was a special town. Many priests and Levites that served the Temple lived in Jericho.
 - The Temple used, on a rotating basis, 20,000 priests. They were divided into 26 groups.
 - At the Passover time, all the priests were on duty to serve so many people.
 - Many priests were hostile to Jesus because Jesus did not obey the Law as orthodoxy required.
2. Jesus attracted a large crowd of people who wanted to hear him, but also many many pilgrims were on to road ready to go to Passover.
 3. It was the custom for a Rabbi or teacher to actually teach the people as they all walked along together.
 4. In the Jewish tradition, / a *Levite* is a member /of the Hebrew tribe of Levi. / When Joshua led the Israelites / into the land of Canaan, / the Levites were the only Israelite tribe / who received cities / but no tribal land / "because the Lord / the God of Israel himself / is their possession". / The Tribe of Levi / served particular religious duties / for the Israelites / and had political responsibilities as well. / In return, / the landed tribes were expected to give tithe to the Levites, / particularly / the tithe known as the Maaser Rishon or Levite Tithe. (Wikipedia)