Sermon Notes and Daily Devotional First Congregational Church of Woodstock Pastor Doug Warren December 8, 2024

Mark's Gospel—Jesus' True Identity Reveals the Magnitude of His Sacrifice

10:30 Morning Worship Service:

Mark 10:32-45

First in the Kingdom

Jesus Is the Servant King Who Came to Die.

- 1. Mark Records Three Conversations About Being First.
- 2. Jesus Tells the Disciples, I Came to Die (32-34).
- 3. James & John Say We Want to Be First and Second (35-40).
- 4. The Other Ten Disciples Are Angry at James & John (41-45).
- 5. Jesus Died to Free Us from Our Slavery to Ourselves.

Conclusion: Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem to be hailed as King of Kings. But instead of being ecstatic His disciples are afraid. Jesus keeps talking about death instead of victory. James and John try to clear things up. When Jesus ascends His throne can they be his right and left-hand men? This of course infuriates the other ten disciples. Jesus talks with them in three settings to clarify. Yes, Jesus is going to be King and rescue them from death, but not the way they think. He must die first and then He will be raised.

Passage in Advent Booklet for Third Week Deuteronomy 18:15-19

¹⁵ "The Lord your *God will raise up for you a prophet* like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—¹⁶ just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' ¹⁷ And the Lord said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸ *I will raise up for them a prophet* like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

John 12:44-50

And Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me."

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.