

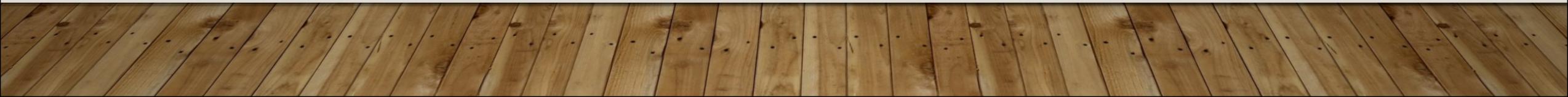


# IF WE'RE FOLLOWING CHRIST, CHRIST COMES FIRST

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MARK 8:34-38 BIBLE STUDY

DANNY SCOTTON, JR.





IF WE'RE FOLLOWING CHRIST,  
CHRIST COMES FIRST  
CONTEXT



- “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do **you** say I am?” Peter answered, “You are the Messiah.” (Mk 8:29, NIV)
- He then began to teach them that the **Son of Man** must **suffer many things** and be **rejected** by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be **killed** and **after three days rise again.** (Mk 8:31, NIV)



## IF WE'RE FOLLOWING CHRIST, CHRIST COMES FIRST CONTEXT



- “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a **son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven**. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; **all** nations and peoples of **every** language worshiped him. His dominion is an **everlasting** dominion that will not pass away, and his **kingdom** is one that will **never be destroyed**” (Dn 7:13-14, NIV)
- “Are you the **Messiah**, the Son of the Blessed One?” (Mk 14:61b, NIV). “**I am...** and you will see the **Son of Man** sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and **coming on the clouds of heaven**” (Mk 14:62, NIV).
- 63 The high priest tore his clothes. “Why do we need any more witnesses?” he asked. 64 “You have heard the **blasphemy**. What do you think?” They all condemned him as **worthy of death**. (Mk 14:63-



## IF WE'RE FOLLOWING CHRIST, CHRIST COMES FIRST CONTEXT



- He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to **rebuke** him. (Mk 8:32, NIV)
- “but he was pierced for **our** transgressions, he was crushed for **our** iniquities; the punishment that brought **us** peace was on him, and by his wounds **we** are healed” (Is 53:5, NIV).
- But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get **behind** [ὀπίσω | *opisō*] me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of **God**, but merely **human** concerns.” (Mk 8:33, NIV)



IF WE'RE FOLLOWING CHRIST,  
CHRIST COMES FIRST  
RIGHT TITLE, BUT...



- Whenever the **impure spirits** saw him, they **fell down** before him and cried out, “**You are the Son of God.**” (Mk 3:11, NIV)
- “Not everyone who says to me, ‘**Lord, Lord,**’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who **does the will of my Father** who is in heaven. (Mt 7:21, NIV)
- “Why do you call me, ‘**Lord, Lord,**’ and do not do what I say? (Lk 6:46, NIV)



MARK 8:34  
DENY, CARRY, FOLLOW



- And having summoned the crowd – along with His disciples – He said to them, "If anyone desires to follow **behind** Me, they must **deny themselves, carry their cross, and follow me** (continually)." (Mk 8:34, AT)
- Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross **daily** and follow me. (Lk 9:23, NIV)



MARK 8:35  
DIVINE PARADOX



- “For whoever desires to **save** their life will **lose** it, but whoever **loses** their life for my sake and for the Gospel will **save** it” (Mk 8:35, NIV)
- 28 Then Peter spoke up, “We have left **everything** to **follow** you!” 29 “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields **for me and the gospel** 30 will fail to receive a **hundred** times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come **eternal life** (Mk 10:28-30, NIV)



MARK 8:36  
WHAT GOOD IS IT?



- “For what benefit is it for a person to gain the whole world and lose their soul [(life)]?” (Mk 8:36, AT).



MARK 8:37  
PRICELESS



- For what can a person give in exchange for their soul [(life)]? (Mk 8:37, AT)



MARK 8:38  
NOT ASHAMED



- “For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this **adulterous** and sinful generation, the **Son of Man** will be ashamed of them when He comes in His Father's glory with the holy angels.” (Mk 8:38, AT)
- Am I now trying to win the **approval** of **human beings**, or of **God**? Or am I **trying to please people**? If I were still trying to **please people**, I would **not be a servant of Christ**. (Gal 1:10, NIV)
- These people honor me with their **lips**, but their **hearts** are far from me” (Mk 7:6b, NIV)



## MARK 8:38 THE JUDGMENT OF JESUS



- For he has set a day when he will **judge the world** with **justice** by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by **raising him from the dead.** (Ac 17:31, NIV)
- 31 “When the **Son of Man** comes in his glory, and all the **angels** with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will **separate** the people one from another as a shepherd separates the **sheep** from the **goats.** (Mt 25:31-32, NIV)