

Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

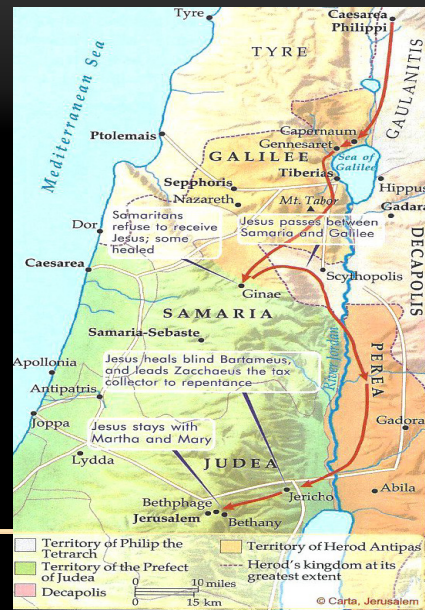
Fighting over position

Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 20:17-19 – Fighting over position

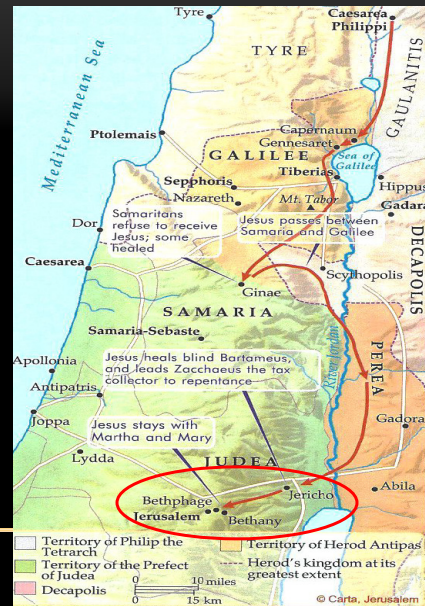
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Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 20:29 – Fighting over position

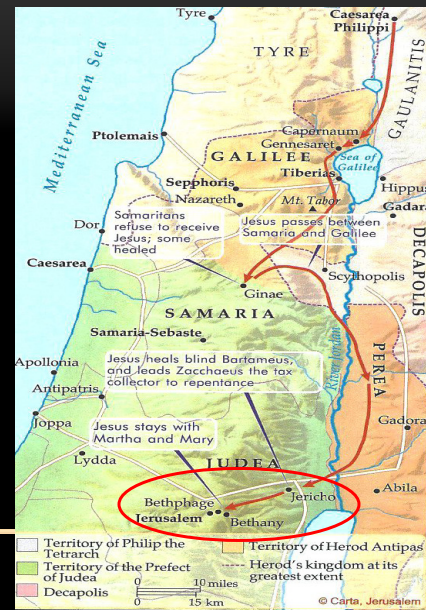


Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 20:29 – Fighting over position

This morning we have 2 stories:

- One where a mother is fighting for the position of her sons & the other disciples are then fighting with the one's fighting for position
- Another where Jesus is fighting for the position of another



Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 20:20-28 – Fighting over position

Story # 1: James & John & mom

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Matthew 20:20-28 – Fighting over position

Story # 1: James & John & mom

Is. 51:17 Wake yourself, wake yourself, stand up, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the hand of the LORD the cup of His wrath, who have drunk to the dregs the bowl, the cup of staggering. [22] Thus says your Lord, the LORD, your God who pleads the cause of His people: “Behold, I have taken from your hand the cup of staggering; the bowl of My wrath you shall drink no more; (the same in Jer. 25:15-29)

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Matthew 20:20-28 – Fighting over position

Story # 1: James & John & mom

➤ *Shock 1 – Jesus will drink “the cup”*

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Story # 1: James & John & mom

- *Shock 1 – Jesus will drink “the cup”*
 - *Shock 2 – The King becomes the Servant*
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Story # 1: James & John & mom

- *Shock 1 – Jesus will drink “the cup”*
- *Shock 2 – The King becomes the Servant*

Is. 53:10 Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His soul makes an offering for guilt, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. [11] Out of the anguish of His soul He shall see and be satisfied; by His knowledge shall the Righteous One, My Servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities. [12] Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

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Matthew 20:20-28 – Fighting over position

Story # 1: James & John & mom

- Shock 1 – Jesus will drink “the cup”
 - Shock 2 – The King becomes the Servant
 - Shock 3 – What we share with this King is shame & death
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Matthew 20:29-34 – Fighting over position

Story # 1: James & John & mom

Story # 2: Blind man beside the road

Matthew – “Why Jesus?”

Matthew 20:32 – Fighting over position

Story # 1: James & John & mom

Story # 2: Blind man beside the road

The BLIND GUY is in fact fulfilling a necessary role: Alms to God

- *The typical beggar in this culture doesn't say, "Excuse me do you have some lose change"?*
 - *He says rather, "GIVE TO GOD"*
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Matthew – “Why Jesus?”

Matthew 20:20-34 – Fighting over position

How do we wrestle with these 2 stories about position, about what it means to be truly human...About our royal vocation?

1) *Position blinds us*

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Matthew 20:20-34 – Fighting over position

How do we wrestle with these 2 stories about position, about what it means to be truly human?

1) *Position blinds us*

The problem is:

- *It produces cheap loyalty*
 - *It produces hollow friendships because the goal isn't closeness or love, it is rather an end game*
 - *& the greatest issue is we don't normally even see it*
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Matthew 20:20-34 – Fighting over position

How do we wrestle with these 2 stories about position, about what it means to be truly human?

1) *Position blinds us*

Matt. 19:28 Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. [29] And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for My Name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. [30] But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

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Matthew 20:20-34 – Fighting over position

How do we wrestle with these 2 stories about position, about what it means to be truly human?

- 1) *Position blinds us*
 - 2) *The marginalized are our opportunity*
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- 1) *Position blinds us*
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Matt. 25:40 And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me.’

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How do we wrestle with these 2 stories about position, about what it means to be truly human?

- 1) *Position blinds us*
 - 2) *The marginalized are our opportunity*
 - 3) *It's less about rescue & more about restoration*
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How do we wrestle with these 2 stories about position, about what it means to be truly human?

- 1) *Position blinds us*
 - 2) *The marginalized are our opportunity*
 - 3) *It's less about rescue & more about restoration*
 - *Jesus knew the RISK they were taking...they would have to change everything*
 - *Jesus knew the COST they would incur...having to start over, to learn, to live, to work*
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