

Matthew 16:21 Four Things That Jesus Must Do

Introduction: In our text Jesus outlines four things that He must do: (1) Go to Jerusalem, (2) Suffer many things of the elders, etc., (3) Be killed, and (4) Be raised the third day.

I. He must go to Jerusalem.

- A. This would come as no surprise to the disciples.
 - 1. Jesus had asked, “Who do men say that I the Son of man am?” and they “But whom say ye that I am? (Verses 13, 15)
 - 2. The disciples were certain as Peter expressed it, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God,” Verse 16.
 - 3. Like all Jews they expected Him to take the throne and drive out the Romans.
 - 4. They expected that soon He would go to Jerusalem, claim the throne and seek to rally support.
 - 5. With the kind of miracles He had been doing and the kind of crowds He had been drawing, they foresaw no problem.
- B. Thus when Jesus announced that He must go to Jerusalem, their minds raced ahead of His words.
 - 1. Their hearts must have leaped within them for joy.
 - 2. They could only imagine what glory and honor was ahead for them in the coming government of Israel.
- C. But Jesus knocked the props out from under their anticipation.
 - 1. Jesus did not say that He would rule, but that He would suffer and die.
 - 2. And instead of sharing glory with Jesus, they are to share in the suffering.
- D. Yet even though Jesus knew that there was suffering ahead, He said, “I must go.”
 - 1. The Greek word for “must” is from a Greek verb meaning “to tie, to bind.”
 - 2. Jesus was saying “I am bound to go to Jerusalem.”
- E. Why did Jesus feel that He must go to Jerusalem?
 - 1. It would seem that this would be the one place that He would avoid at all cost.
 - 2. But Jesus knew that it was the will of God the Father for Him to go and suffer.
 - 3. Jesus had not come to the world to do His own will, but as He said, “the will of Him that sent me.”

II. He must suffer many things of the elders and chief priest and scribes.

- A. The men hated Jesus because of the truths which He preached and taught.
- B. If He would be willing to change His teachings to conform to theirs, they would cease to oppose Him.
- C. But there was no way Jesus would compromise the truth of God and endorse the heresies of the Pharisees.
- D. Also, He must suffer to fulfill the old testament prophecies, Isaiah 53:3-5

III. He must be killed.

- A. This must have been a devastating blow to the disciples.
 - 1. They had built themselves up to anticipate seeing Him on the throne.
 - 2. This is not to mention their own expectations of being His chief princes.
- B. But He must be killed or there would be no salvation.
 - 1. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin, Hebrews 9:22.
 - 2. The blood of the animals was being shed in the temple, but only His blood could redeem, Hebrew 10:4.

3. He and He alone could provide a suitable sacrifice, John 1:29.

IV. He must be raised again the third day.

A. It was necessary in order to keep Satan from having the victory over Him.

1. There is nothing Satan would have liked better than for Jesus to remain forever in the grave.

2. This would have been a great victory for the Devil

3. But by coming forth from the grave, Jesus would, instead have the victory over Satan.

B. It was necessary in order for Him to be able to save.

1. A dead person cannot save anybody.

2. But by coming forth from the grave He lives to save all who trust in Him, Hebrews 7:25.

Conclusion:

1. Jesus has now done all four things that He said He must do. (Go to Jerusalem suffer, die, be raised.)

2. If you would be saved He said there are some things you must do:

A. You must repent, Luke 13:3,5.

B. You must be born again, John 3:3,5,7.

3. You can and will be saved if you will trust Jesus as your Savior, John 3:16; Romans 10:13.

4. Jesus has already done what He must do. Are you ready to do what you must do?

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