

A crown of thorns, a symbol of suffering and sacrifice, is shown resting on a weathered wooden plank. The thorns are dark and sharp, with some small red spots that suggest blood. The background is a close-up of the wood's grain, creating a somber and textured atmosphere.

# THE SUFFERING SERVANT

Mark's Gospel Account

## Mark 9:1-13

And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.”<sup>2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone.



## Mark 9:1-13

There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

# Mark 9:1-13

<sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters — one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” <sup>6</sup> (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

<sup>7</sup> Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud:

# Mark 9:1-13

“This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”

<sup>8</sup> Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

# Mark 9:1-13

<sup>10</sup> They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what “rising from the dead” meant. <sup>11</sup> And they asked him, “Why do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?” <sup>12</sup> Jesus replied, “To be sure, Elijah does come first, and restores all things. Why then is it written that the Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected?”

# Mark 9:1-13

<sup>13</sup> But I tell you, Elijah has come, and they have done to him everything they wished, just as it is written about him.”



## MAIN IDEA:

Like Peter, James and John, every disciple's faith will one day become sight.

## 2 Peter 1:16-19

For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying,

## 2 Peter 1:16-19

“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

*Jesus shares an unbelievable moment with Peter,  
James and John to make it abundantly clear that...*

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1) Jesus is the eternal king in God's kingdom.

If I were God,  
I'd make myself  
**CLEARER**

SEARCHING FOR CLARITY IN A WORLD FULL OF CLAIMS



JOHN DICKSON

Having argued that human cultures are wired for contact with God, and having drawn attention to the Athenian's own admission (implicit in the presence of an altar to an "unknown God") that God remains for them "unknown", Paul proceeds to emphasize the verifiable nature of the Christian claim:

## Acts 17:30-31

In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. <sup>31</sup> 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.”



The news of Christ – his life death and resurrection – is not mythical narrative revealed in the head of a prophet and transcribed in books called Gospels. It was a phenomenon of time and space; it was an event of history.

- John Dickson,

*If I Were God, I'd Make Myself Clearer*

## 1 Corinthians 15:13-14

If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.

*Jesus shares an unbelievable moment with Peter, James and John to make it abundantly clear that...*

1) Jesus is the eternal king in God's kingdom.

*Jesus shares an unbelievable moment with Peter, James and John to make it abundantly clear that...*

2) Jesus is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets.

*Jesus shares an unbelievable moment with Peter, James and John to make it abundantly clear that...*

3) Jesus is truly the beloved son of God.

*Jesus shares an unbelievable moment with Peter, James and John to make it abundantly clear that...*

4) Jesus is willing to suffer in order to save.

## Philippians 2:5-7

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

## MAIN IDEA:

Like Peter, James and John, every disciple's faith will one day become sight.



## 1 Corinthians 13:9-10, 12

For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears...For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

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