

MATTHEW:
THE GOSPEL
OF THE KINGDOM

Kingdom Greatness:

Servant of One,
Servant of All

Matthew 20:17-28

Introduction

- Connection to the larger context

The Third Prediction (17-19)

And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem,
he took the twelve disciples **aside**,
and on the way he said to **them**,

“See, **we** are going up to Jerusalem.

And the Son of Man will be **delivered** over to the chief
priests and scribes,

and they will condemn him to death

and **deliver** him over to the Gentiles to be mocked
and flogged and crucified,

and he will be **raised** on the third day.”

A Mother's Request (20-21)

Then the **mother** of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with
her sons, and **kneeling** before him **she** asked him for
something.

And he said to her, “What do **you** want?”

She said to him, “**Say** that these two sons of mine are to sit,
one at your right hand and one at your left, in **your kingdom**.”

The Savior's Response (22-23)

Jesus answered, "You **do not know** what you are asking.
Are **you** able to drink **the cup** that I am to drink?"

They said to him, "We are able."

He said to them, "You **will** drink **my** cup,
but to sit at my right hand and at my left
is **not mine** to grant,
but it is for those for whom it has been **prepared** by
my Father."

An Alternative Paradigm (24-28)

And when the ten heard it, they were **indignant** at the two brothers.

But Jesus called them to him and said,
"You know that the **rulers** of the Gentiles lord it over them,
and their **great ones** exercise authority over them.

It shall **not** be so among you.

But whoever **would be great** among you must be your **servant**,
and whoever **would be first** among you must be your **slave**,

even as the Son of Man came

not to be served

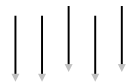
but to **serve**, and to **give** his life as a **ransom** for many."

Does this make us in fact slave to all?

Doesn't this mean that we have to meet everyone's expectations?

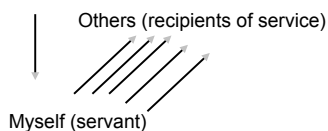
How does this not lead to crushing sense of responsibility?

Others (masters)



Myself (servant)

The Trinity (Master)



Myself (servant)

Application

- How this teaches us both **conviction** and **submission**
- God's **grace** in their first fleeing from the cup (in the garden) but then taking the cup (in the preaching of the Gospel)
- It is the reality of the resurrection that will change their minds...and ours
- Piper's comment about being "unashamed"
- Here is the **antidote** for politicking, vying for position, jealousies
- Jesus is our **model**...and more fundamentally our **ransom**