

## Sharing the Cup of Jesus

Matthew 20:17-28

### I. SPEAKING OF DEATH (17-19)—that conversation you don't want to (but need to) have

#### A. The Occasion (17)—*Going up to Jerusalem*

1. Approaching His Destiny (Isa 50:6-8)
2. Preparing His Disciples

#### B. The Repetition (Mat 16:21 & 17:22-23)—*Third time He has officially told them this*

1. His Knowledge of the Future—*What happens will not be a surprise to Jesus.*
2. His Command of the Situation (Jn 10:18)—*Jesus is calling the shots.*
3. His Dedication to the Plan (Mt 16:23; Jn 15:13)—*This is God's plan.*

#### C. The Doctrine—the Sacrificial Atonement of Christ

(28; Isa 51:5; Jn 1:29; Rom 5:6; 1 Cor 15:3; 1 Pet 1:18-19 & 3:18)

1. Jesus came to sacrifice Himself in our place.
2. His blood is necessary and sufficient for our salvation.

### II. POLITICKING FOR POSITION (20-21, 23b-28)

#### A. Manipulative Maneuvers

1. An Ambitious Mother (20-21)—*wants honor and distinction for her sons*
2. Those Sneaky Sons of...! (22)—*trying to manipulate Jesus with Mom*
3. (Un)Righteous Indignation (24)—*self-centered and easily offended*
4. Assigned Seats (23; Isa 49:1-4; Eph 2:10)—*God the Father has chosen the people and prepared the places*

## B. Opposing Models of Leadership

1. The Rulers of the Gentiles (25)—arrogant, self-serving, domineering authority
2. The Son of Man (28)—humble, self-sacrificing, other-serving authority

## C. The Cost of Greatness—*You don't know what you're asking.*

1. Humility
2. Self-sacrifice
3. Service

## III. DRINKING THE CUP (22-23; Isaiah 51:17-23)

### A. The Fellowship of the Cup—*Sharing a Life and Destiny; an act of intimate friendship*

1. Sharing in Christ's Glory (Rom 8:17)—future
2. Sharing in Christ's Suffering (Phil 3:10)—now
3. Sharing in Christ's Character (Rom 5:3-4; 8:18; Heb 12:10)—Greatness is everything that He is.

### B. The Contents of the Cup (Isa 51:17, 22; Jer 25:15-16)—*suffering*

1. Christ's Unique Role as Savior (Mat 26:39, 42)—the Cup of God's Wrath
2. Our Identification with Christ (Mat 16:24)—what we suffer in order to follow Jesus

### C. The Inevitability of the Cup (23; Mat 10:17-25; 16:24; Jn 18:11; 2 Tim 2:12)—*The cost of discipleship.*

### D. The Honor of the Cup (Mat 5:11-12; Acts 5:41; Phil 1:29; 1 Pet 2:21)

1. **Suffering for the sake of Christ is:**
  - a. Evidence of God's Favor—does not earn us God's favor
  - b. A Result of Our Salvation—does not earn merit for salvation
2. You can't buy love, but it will cost you! (Song 8:7; 1 Cor 13:3)
3. **The lover will gladly pay the cost of love.** (2 Sam 24:24; Ps 63:3; 73:25)—LOVE, not duty or fear, is what motivates the saints and martyrs.