





An Advancing
Kingdom...

A Transforming
Kingdom...

A Suffering Kingdom

Luke 9, Part C

L'Amable Bible Chapel

August 17, 2025

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A large, dark brown hand is shown in the upper left corner, reaching downwards. In the center background, a faint cross is visible against a bright, hazy sunset sky. In the lower right corner, a smaller hand is shown reaching upwards towards the cross. The overall scene is a spiritual or religious illustration.

God Cares for Us

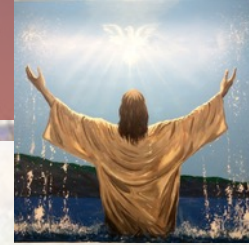
*Do we realize how
much Jesus cares
for us?*

The Big Question
This Week...

Luke 9...a turning point in Jesus' ministry

The flow of events so far...

- Birth, Baptism, Temptation, Teaching of the Kingdom...
- Healing Power & Miracles
- Commanding Nature & Demons
- Revelations & Transfigurations

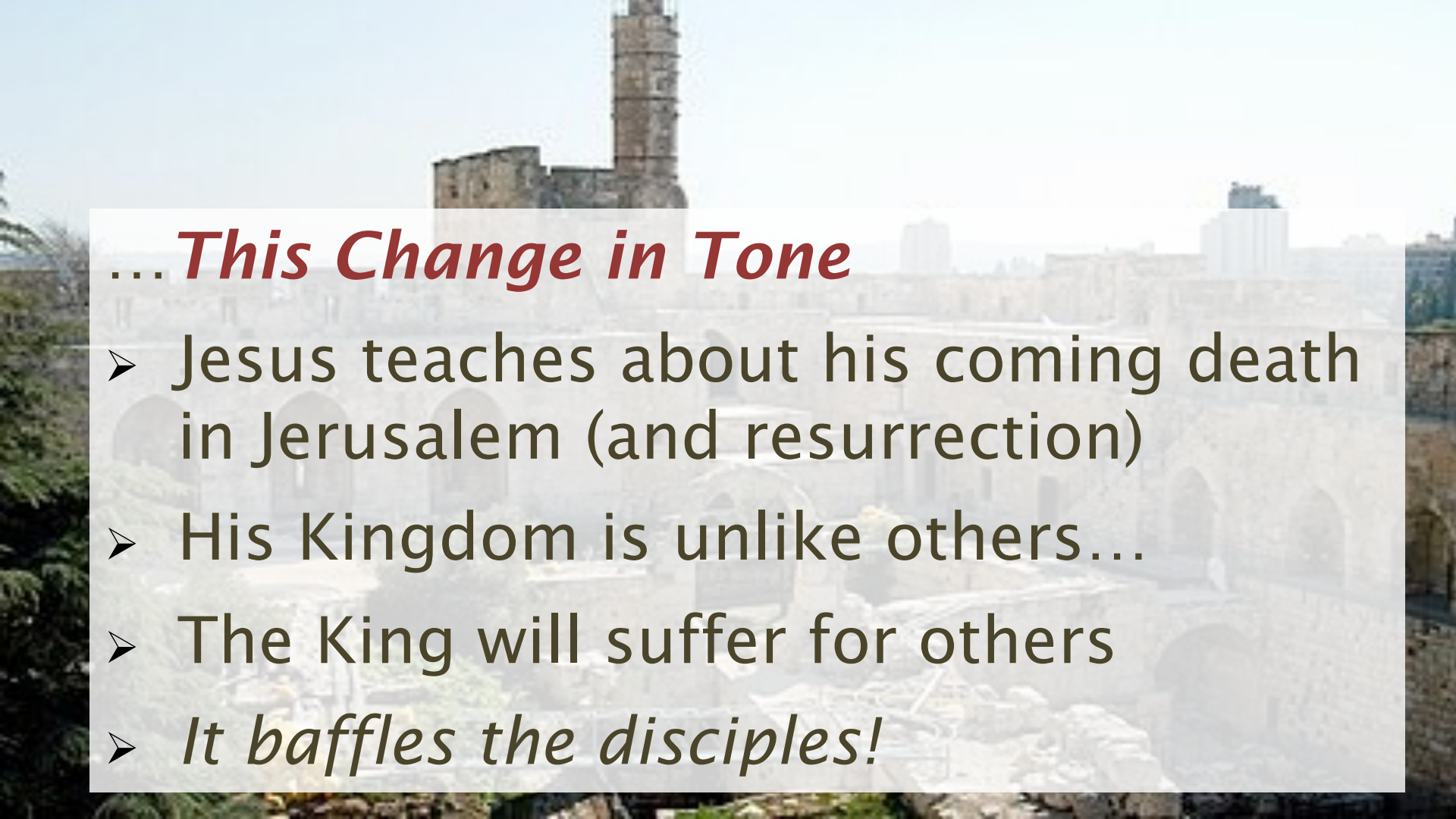




- ❖ Peter's Confession is clearly a human high point in this chapter
- ❖ It follows the victorious preaching ministry at the beginning of the chapter, followed by the miracle of feeding 5,000 that the Apostles participate in.
- ❖ Perhaps they thought Jesus was about to conclude his victorious conquest and establish the Promised Kingdom!

- Soon they see the future amazing glory of Jesus
- *But do not see the coming suffering of Jesus*



The background of the slide is a faded, high-angle photograph of ancient ruins in Jerusalem. A prominent stone tower with a spiral staircase on its exterior is visible in the upper left. Other stone walls and structures are scattered across the landscape, which is partially covered by green vegetation in the foreground.

...*This Change in Tone*

- Jesus teaches about his coming death in Jerusalem (and resurrection)
- His Kingdom is unlike others...
- The King will suffer for others
- *It baffles the disciples!*

❖ A clue of what's coming: *Matthew 17:*

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

¹⁰ The disciples asked him, “Why then do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?”



¹¹ Jesus replied, “To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things.

¹² But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. *In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands.”*

The background of the entire image is a soft-focus sunset or sunrise sky with warm orange and yellow tones. A large, dark silhouette of a hand is reaching down from the top left corner. In the center of the image, a small, faint cross is visible against the bright light of the sun. In the bottom right corner, the tip of another hand is visible, reaching upwards towards the cross.

God Cares for Us

*Do we realize how
much Jesus cares
for us?*

Again...



Descending From the Mountain...

...We head to...

Challenges, Conflicts, & the Cross

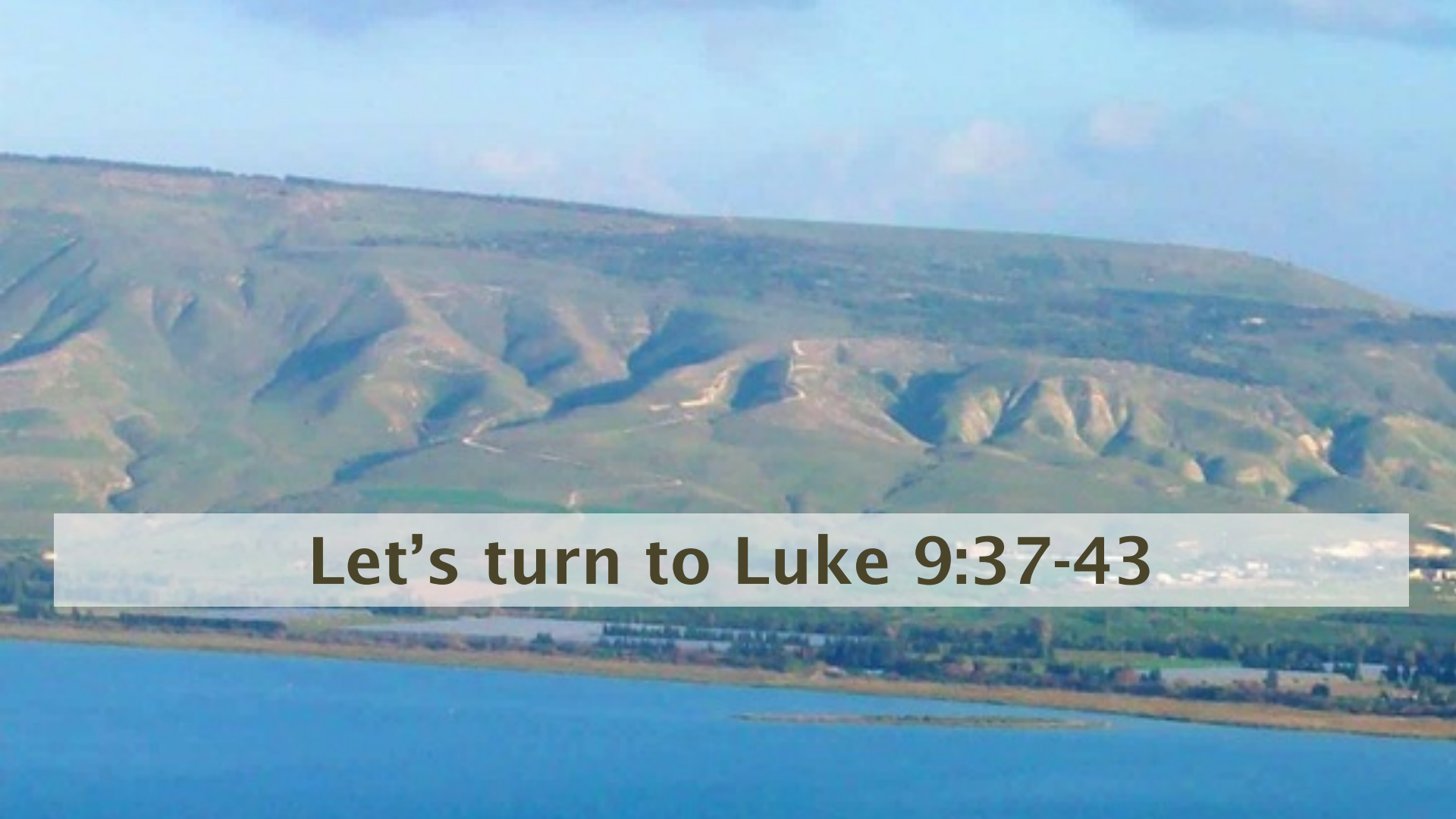


A. Challenges for Jesus

- ❖ We will see three kinds of challenges after Peter's Confession in Luke 9:
 - a. *Disciples' lack of understanding*
 - b. *Opposition from Satan and circumstances*
 - c. *The coming reality of the Cross*

In fact, the Disciples have a poor track record in Luke 9 after the Transfiguration...

- They cannot heal a possessed boy
- They do not understand Jesus' mission—why he will have to die
- They argue about who is the greatest
- There's jealousy about others casting out demons (even though they did not!)
- They suggest destroying a Samaritan village!



Let's turn to Luke 9:37-43

³⁷ The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. ³⁸ A man in the crowd called out, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. ³⁹ A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. ⁴⁰ I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.”

⁴¹ “You unbelieving and perverse generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here.”

⁴² Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the impure spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. ⁴³ And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.



Mark 9 gives us
more detail...

Mark 9:21-27

²¹ Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?"

"From childhood," he answered. ²² "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us."

²³ "'If you can'?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."

²⁴ Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

²⁵ When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit.

"You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

²⁶ The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out.

The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up. ²⁸ After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?”

²⁹ He replied, “This kind can come out only by prayer.^{[a](#)}” (*Note: some manuscripts have “prayer and fasting”*)



Mark emphasizes:

- Boy's long suffering
- Role of father's faith
- Jesus' power and authority
- Disciples' requirement

This challenge opens up realities in ministry...

Let's return to Luke 9

Luke 9:44-45

While everyone was marveling at all that Jesus did, he said to his disciples, ⁴⁴ “Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men.” ⁴⁵ But they did not understand what this meant. It was hidden from them, so that they did not grasp it, and they were afraid to ask him about it.

This challenge for Jesus is that the disciples do not understand...

- At the time of Peter's Confession, he already explained he was going to suffer
- He repeated this to Peter, James, & John coming down from the mountain
- He now tells his disciples again
- How would you feel in Jesus' shoes?

B. Conflicts

Luke now relates three significant conflicts that Jesus has to address...

Luke 9:46-48 *The First Conflict*

⁴⁶ An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest.

⁴⁷ Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little child and had him stand beside him.



48 Then he said to them, “Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest.”

Jesus makes it very clear... welcoming the child—welcomes Jesus—which welcomes the Father... it must be taken to heart

Mark includes one extra detail in 9:35:

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “If anyone wants to be first, he must be the last of all and the servant of all.”

- This is counter to the disciples’ (and our) thinking, but the example Jesus sets
- (This prompts John to say the next item...)

Luke 9:49-50 *Conflict #2*

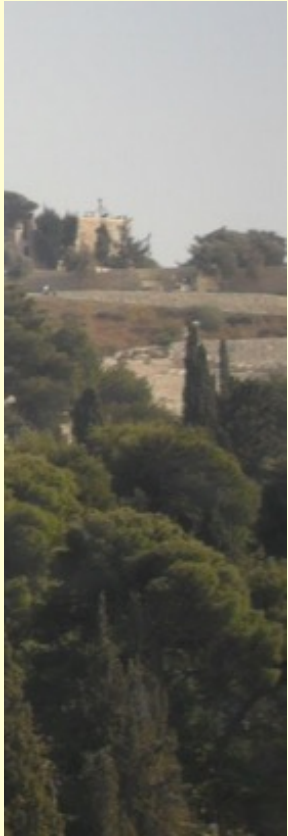
⁴⁹ “Master,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us.”

⁵⁰ “Do not stop him,” Jesus said, “for whoever is not against you is for you.”



Luke 9:51-56 *The Third Conflict*

⁵¹ As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; ⁵³ but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem.



54 When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?*

55 But Jesus turned and rebuked them.**

56 Then he and his disciples went to another village.

54 *BYZ and TR “*from heaven, just as Elijah did*”;

55 **BYZ and TR include “*and He said, “You do not know what kind of spirit you are of. 56 For the Son of Man did not come to destroy the lives of men, but to save them”.*”

A hazy, mountainous landscape with a small town in the foreground. The town has several buildings, including a church with a tall steeple. The mountains in the background are covered in greenery and are shrouded in a light mist or fog.

C. The Road to the Cross

- ❖ Around these challenges and conflicts Jesus knows he is heading to the cross
- ❖ *We begin to feel his aloneness—his own followers do not understand or, they go on sidetracks*

We covered the last part of Luke 9 before,
as Jesus challenges would-be followers...
But the last verse in Luke 9 exemplifies
Jesus' own attitude...



⁶² Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

Question...*Are we grateful? Do we know how much Jesus cares for us?*

- Jesus knows he will sacrifice himself
- He doesn't ask for perfection nor expect it
- This is counter to the world's thinking
- The 'Child' illustration reminds us he is God's beloved Son—just as God said on the mountain

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE

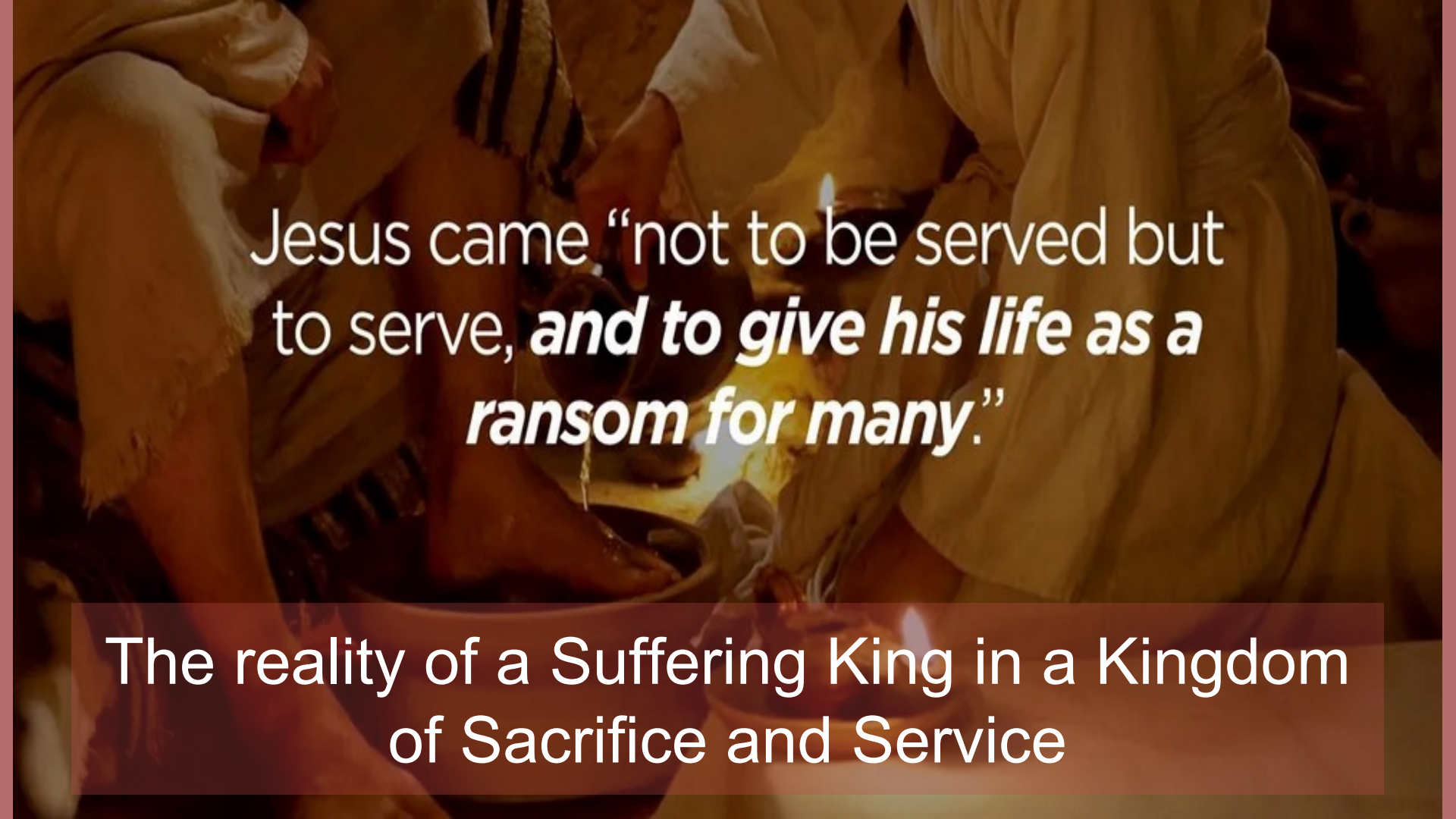
What do we take with us
from today's passage?

13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zách-á-ri'-ás: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

And thou shalt have joy and gladness; for many shall rejoice in his birth.

16 And many of the children of Israel shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, and shall drink of his cup, and shall be washed with his blood, and shall be saved.

17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and to make ready the people for the coming of the Lord.

A warm, golden-toned photograph depicting Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. Jesus, on the right, is wearing a white robe and is captured in the act of pouring water from a small jar onto the foot of a disciple. The disciple's foot is resting in a large, shallow wooden bowl. Other disciples are visible in the background, some with their feet also being washed. The scene is intimate and highlights the theme of service.

Jesus came “not to be served but
to serve, ***and to give his life as a
ransom for many.***”

The reality of a Suffering King in a Kingdom
of Sacrifice and Service

**The scene will begin to shift from
Galilee to Jerusalem...**



Credits

This is my
chosen Son;
listen to him.

Luke 9.35

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