

11 December 2016: Preached by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Topic: Cross-Bearers or Crown-Wearers?

Scripture text: Mark 8:27-38

1. There are no crown-wearers in heaven who are not cross-bearers on earth. The price of discipleship is very clearly taught by the Lord Jesus Christ in v.39 to deny ourselves, take up our cross and to follow Him.
2. Peter was right at first in his confession of Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. But when Jesus said that He would have to suffer, be rejected and then to die, Peter could not accept this fact. He told the Lord Jesus that this be far from Him.
3. Peter wanted to wear the crown but not to take the cross. We cannot pick and choose which part of Jesus to follow. Jesus is our Saviour and Lord. The Lordship of Jesus Christ must be accepted by every believer.
4. Jesus is the Lamb of God to take away our sins, He must suffer and then to die for us. If Jesus has to suffer, then Peter must also suffer. Peter was still thinking of his own position, power and popularity. The Lord Jesus had to rebuke Peter severely and publicly for he was influenced by Satan to forbid Jesus Christ from going to the cross.
5. The way of the cross is to walk in humility and to deny self. To take up our cross means we must be prepared to suffer for Christ even unto death. When we bear our cross, the crown will come when Jesus returns again for us one day.