

"I became famous with a dog that came across the finish line and everyone wants to interview me now. It is the first time I have given any interviews."

— *Greek cross-country skier Konstantina Charalampidou after meeting a dog named Nazgul at the finish line during team sprint qualifying.*



“I am greatness, and this is my moment.”

— *Team USA halfpipe skier Alex Ferreira's words to himself before winning gold*

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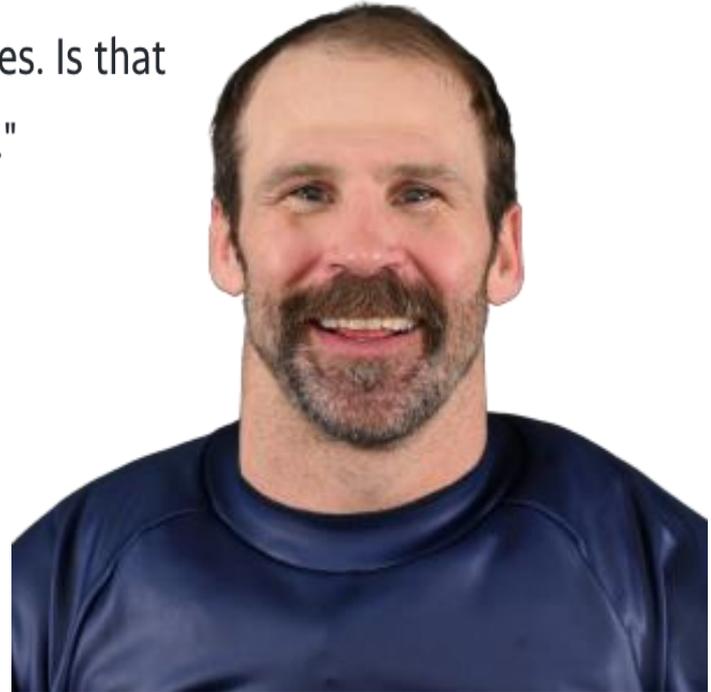
— *Team USA halfpipe skier Alex Ferreira's words to himself before winning gold*

"The Olympics is a beast stronger than me, I just don't have it."

— *Italian snowboarder Roland Fischnaller, who has appeared in seven Winter Games without medaling*

“We're going all the way to 2034. I would love to end in the States. Is that possible? I don't know. Are we going to find out? [REDACTED] straight.”

— *Team USA snowboarder Nick Baumgarter, age 44*



“He had his arm around my mom. Like, get out of here. This is wild. I think Coach Mom was helping Snoop out, telling him all about curling.”

— Team USA curler Korey Dropkin on Snoop Dogg hanging with his mother



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— *Canadian bobsledder Mike Evelyn on how to push start a bobsled*

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“Push hard, drive fast, see what happens at the bottom. It's pretty basic.”

— *Team USA bobsledder Kaillie Armbruster Humphries on her strategy.*



Fall: Revelation – The King appears, full of authority and compassion.

Winter: Recognition – His power and identity stir confusion, awe, and opposition. 

Spring: Reversal – The road to glory is the way of suffering, service, and surrender.

Easter through June: Redemption – Betrayed and crucified, the King rises to reign and send.

Mark 7:24–30

²⁴ Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. ²⁵ In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. ²⁶ The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia.

Mark 7:24–30

She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ “First let the children eat all they want,” he told her, “for it is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.” ²⁸ “Lord,” she replied, “even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹ Then he told her, “For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰ She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Mark 7:24-31

1. Venturous Devotion
2. Vicarious Salvation
3. Virtuous Conviction

Venturous Devotion

Mark 7:24–26a

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Israel During the Time of Jesus



- Ruled by Herod Archelaus, later by Roman Governor Pontius Pilate
- Ruled by Herod Antipas
- Ruled by Philip
- Cities of the Decapolis



Though she's a Syrophoenician, because of Tyre's proximity to Judea she would have known the Jewish customs. She knows that she has none of the religious, moral, and cultural credentials necessary to approach a Jewish rabbi – she is a Phoenician, a Gentile, a pagan, a woman, and her daughter has an unclean spirit. She knows that in every way, according to the standards of the day, she is unclean and therefore disqualified to approach any devout Jew, let alone a rabbi.

Timothy Keller, *King's Cross: The Story of the World in the Life of Jesus*. (London: Hodder & Stoughton, 2011).



Matthew 15:23

²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

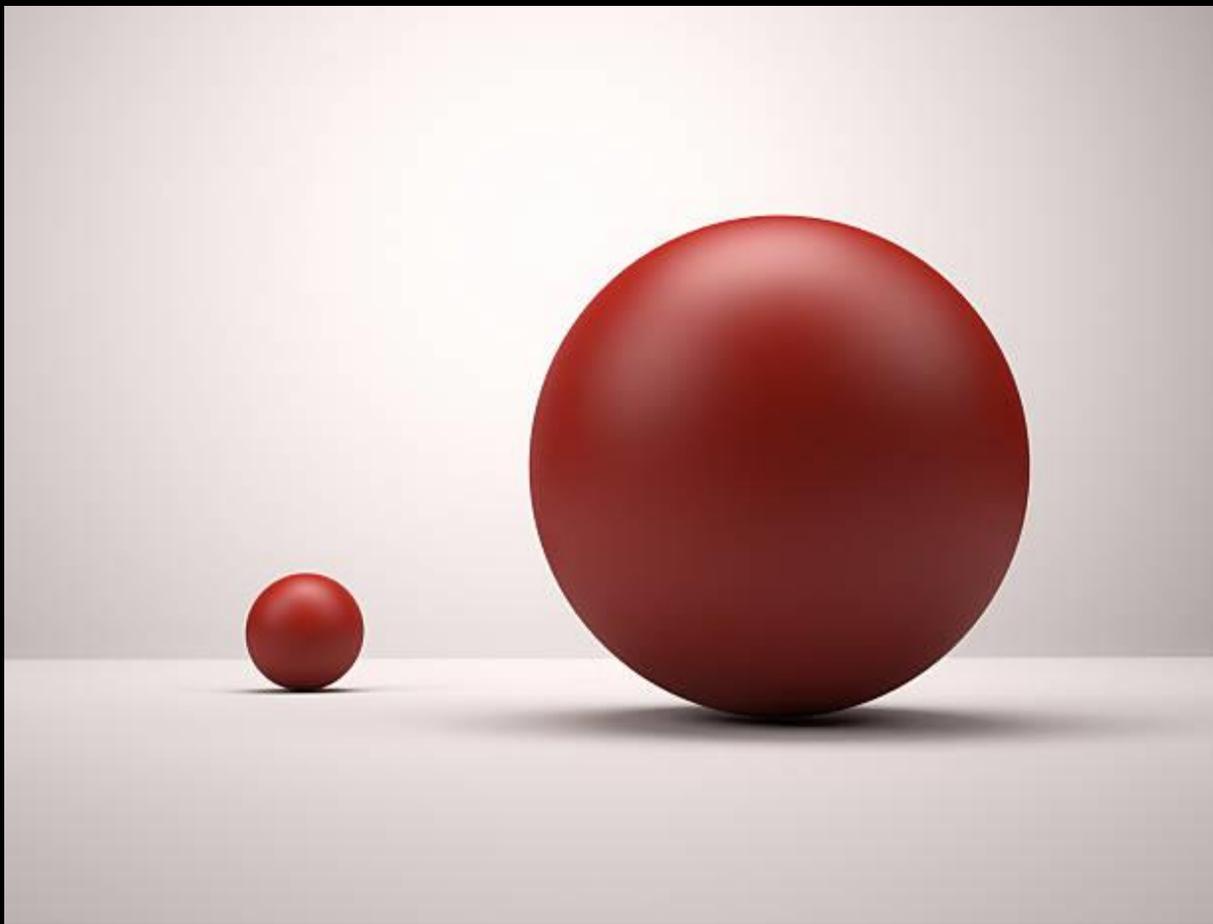


**KNOW
YOUR
RIGHTS**

In Western cultures we don't have anything like this kind of assertiveness. We only have assertion of our rights. We do not know how to contend unless we're standing up for our rights, standing on our dignity and our goodness and saying, "This is what I'm owed." But this woman is not doing that at all. This is rightless assertiveness, something we know little about. She's not saying, "Lord, give me what I deserve on the basis of my goodness," She's saying, "Give me what I *don't* deserve on the basis of *your* goodness – and I need it now."

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Vicarious Salvation

Mark 7:26, 29–30

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Matthew 20:28

The Son of Man did not come to be served,
but to serve, and to give his life
as a ransom for many.”

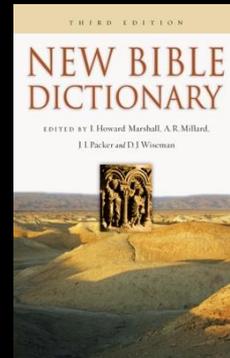
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The love of God (as shown in the Old Testament) must involve itself in sharing the affliction and shame of, and in bearing reproach from, those he was seeking to redeem (Ho. 1–3; Je. 9:1–2; 20:7–10; Is. 63:9). Therefore his true Servant, who will perfectly fulfil his redeeming will, will be a *suffering Servant*...A new vicarious meaning and purpose is now seen in such unique suffering in which One can suffer in the place of, and as the inclusive representative of, all.

D. R. W. Wood and I. Howard Marshall,
New Bible dictionary, 1996.



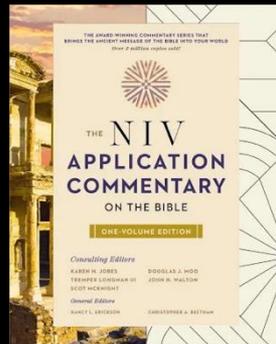
Virtuous Conviction

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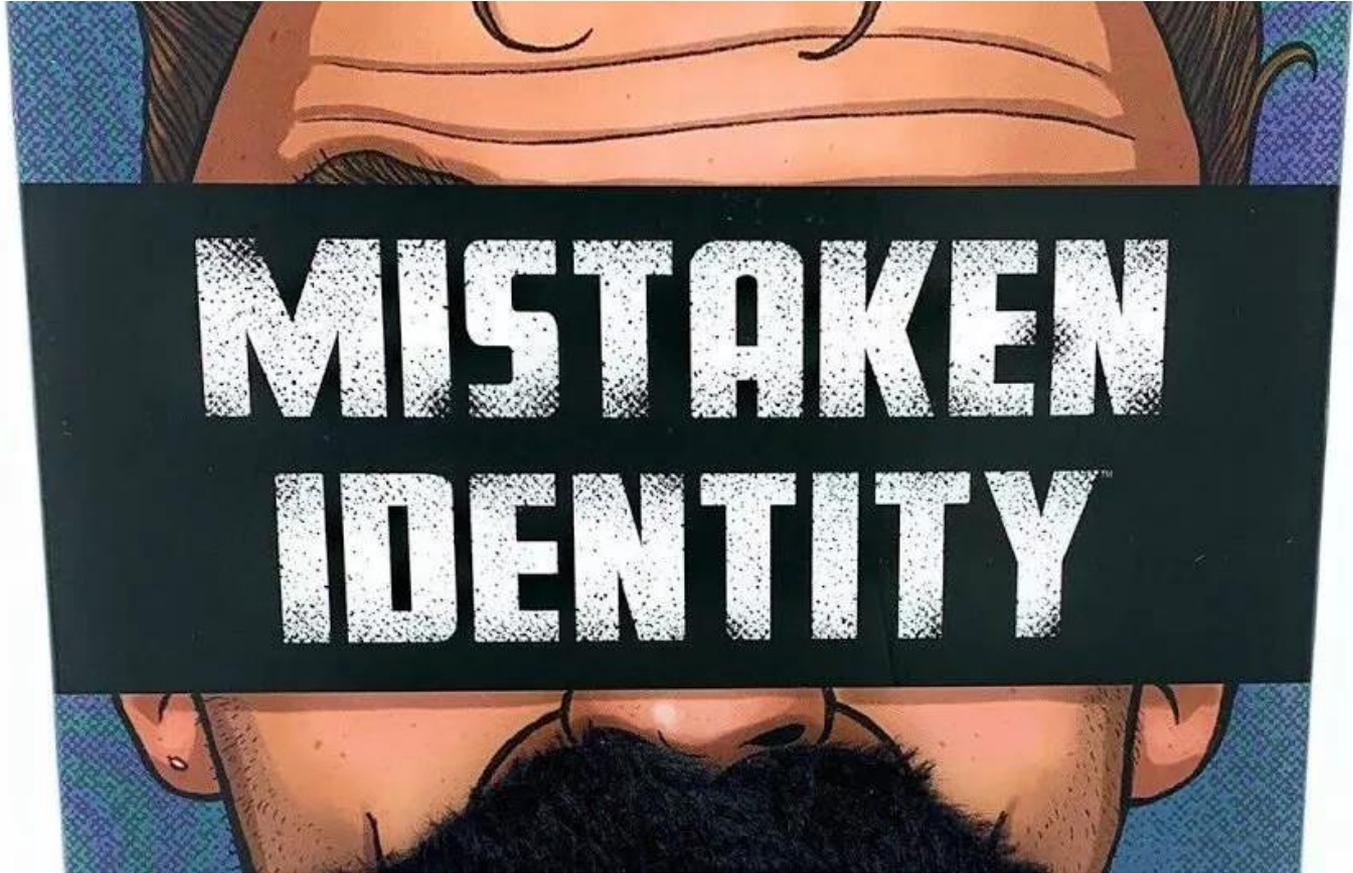
Most of Jesus' listeners in Mark's Gospel do not comprehend his riddles without some explanation...By contrast, this woman recognizes, without any prompting, that "the children" in the parable represent Israel and "the dogs" represent the Gentiles. Israel understood itself to be the children of God. Some expressed scorn for unclean, idolatrous Gentiles by denigrating them as "dogs." She understands and accepts the riddle's implications: Israel has precedence over Gentiles, and the time for Gentiles has not yet come.

David E. Garland, *Mark*, The NIV Application Commentary.
(Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996).



Matthew 15:24-28

²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.” ²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said. ²⁶ He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.” ²⁷ “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.



**MISTAKEN
IDENTITY**



NATE
BARGATZE





Gospel Application

If this child was delivered through the plea of another,
can I believe it's true for me as well?

Are there any areas where I'm looking to my rights,
or the condition/size/quality of my own faith,
rather than simply receiving a crumb from Christ?