



THE GOSPEL OF

MARIANA



Mark 9:30-37

30 They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, 31 for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." 32 But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

Mark 9:30-37

33 And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" 34 But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. 35 And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."

Mark 9:30-37

36 And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them,

37 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

Making it Plain, Again

30 They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, 31 for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

(Mark 9:30-31)

Making it Plain

31 And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 And he said this plainly.

(Mark 8:31-32a)

Questioning

9 And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. 10 So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead might mean.

(Mark 9:9-10)

Huh?

“The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.”

32 But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

(Mark 9:31b-32)

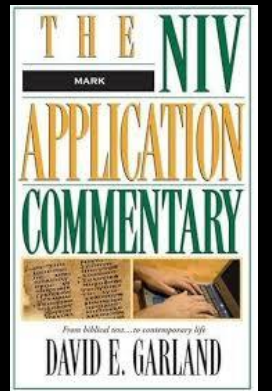


Arguing Again

33 And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" 34 But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.

(Mark 9:33-34)

““The picture Mark presents has tragic-comic dimensions. Jesus walks ahead in silence on his way to his sacrificial death while his straggling disciples push and shove, trying to establish the order of the procession behind him.



David E. Garland, Mark, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996), 367.



Upside-Down Greatness

35 And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."

(Mark 9:35)

The Picture of Greatness

36 And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them,

37 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

(Mark 9:36-37)

“ [Children] were not regarded as especially obedient, trusting, simple, innocent, pure, unself-conscious, or humble. The point of comparison is the insignificance of the child on the honor scale. The child had no power, no status, and few rights. A child was dependent, vulnerable, entirely subject to the authority of the father; yet Jesus chooses such a one to represent those who are needy and lowly. If one wants to be great, one should shower attention on those who are regarded as insignificant, as Jesus himself has done.

***Why is it urgent for us to understand
this upside-down picture of greatness?***

Two Elements of Arguing About Greatness

1. "I'M pretty great"
2. "You are *NOT*"

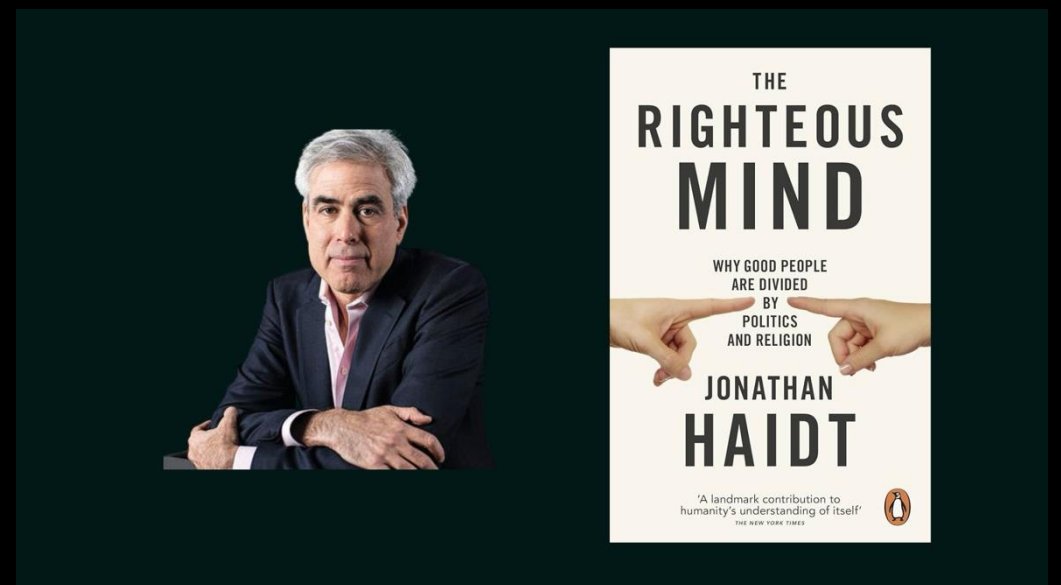


Issues

“**Intuitive Reasoning** is the cognitive process by which individuals make judgments and decisions based on automatic, quick, and often unconscious mental operations. This type of reasoning relies heavily on instinctive responses, gut feelings, and immediate perceptions rather than deliberate, analytical thought. Intuitive reasoning plays a central role in how people make moral judgments, with rational justifications often constructed after the fact to support these initial intuitions.

Jonathan Haidt, “The Righteous Mind”

“Our moral judgments then are far more often the result of intuitive moral reasoning which has developed based on our context, experience, and emotion first, with post-hoc justifications often confirming our positions.”



Jonathan Haidt, “The Righteous Mind”



Philippians 2:5-11

5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.





“ Eating the ratatouille, Ego has a conversion experience. The taste of the dish transports him back to childhood and reminds him of being taken care of by his mother. The food, in this sense, makes him feel loved. He abreacts – in a moment he is undone, his defenses penetrated – he is born again. We catch a glimpse of what Jesus meant when he said, we must become like children (Matt. 18:3). It is a profound moment.

““You were not regarded as especially obedient, trusting, simple, innocent, pure, unself-conscious, or humble. You had no power, no status, and few rights. You are dependent, vulnerable, entirely subject to the authority of the father; yet Jesus chooses you who are needy and lowly.



WE EXIST TO HELP MORE PEOPLE IN THE NORTH SUBURBS

START & STRENGTHEN

A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST

Gospel Culture

NOT DEFINED BY OUR **DIFFERENCES** BUT BY OUR **SAVIOR**.

NOT DEFINED BY OUR **OUTCOMES** BUT BY OUR **HOPE**.

NOT DEFINED BY OUR **EFFORTS** BUT BY **GOD**,
WHO LOVED US FIRST.



Philippians 2:5-11

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Response

Start: Jesus receives and lavishes grace on only the lowly and the needy. Is that you today?

Strengthen: True greatness is upside-down, and it looks like laying down your life for others.