

The Gospel of Mark

Who Do You Say that I Am?

Mark 8:29-30

1. **The _____ of the Answer**

The Lord has been discussing with His disciples how other men describe Him, and He now asks them directly to answer the same question for themselves (Mk. 8:29). The central confession of the disciples was that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah (Mk. 8:29). The other gospel writers add that their confession also included that He was the unique Son of God (Mt. 16:16; Lk. 9:20; cf. Jn. 6:69).

2. **The _____ of the Answer**

The Lord commended Peter for His answer, but indicated that it was the result of revelation and not mere investigation (Mt. 16:17). Any true recognition of what God has said (i.e. a grasping of the truth in belief) is evidence that God is at work in bringing understanding (cf. 1 Cor. 2:14-16). This is another example of the importance of responding in faith to the revelation that you are presented with (cf. Mk. 4:9, 23; 7:16).

3. **The _____ of the Answer**

Peter's confession is significant in the flow of Mark's gospel because of where it started (Mk. 1:1). The disciples' answer is important because of what Jesus begins to focus on in His teaching: His death and resurrection (Mk. 8:31). Their answer is also fundamental to the gospel and salvation; it is the foundational confession upon which the church is built (Mt. 16:18; Acts 2:36).