

Christ's Faith - and our
lack of Faith

Lesson Ch. 11
17-11-68

Mark 9: 14-29

Mark 9: 23 - 'If it is possible!' said Jesus.

'Everything is possible to one who has faith'.

- ~~Impossible~~ ^{to believe} to believe this statement about belief.

① Transfiguration (3 Evangelists): Peter stays! Christ: my work not yet finished. My task not fulfilled - dies at the foot - amongst men.

② Scene at foot: Quarrel between the theologians of the Phar & the disc - The church on the defensive - Trying to justify itself. When Christ asks: what is this about both parties are silent - father speaks up: the man in need.

③ The man in need & the church: Come to the disciples as repres of the church. We are the repres of Christ:

- our enormous responsibility
- our glorious opportunity

3.

Q: What may the world justifiably expect
Does it not have the right to expect love, understanding, sympathy, help, release?

~~Yes~~ - ~~the~~ Christ's rebuke to them.

a) Disc: seemingly tried to heal child in own strength

b) Christ wanted them to realize that their strength does not lie there

→ We cannot even carry the burden our own need & problems (Ullend) How much less that of others? Without prayer & fasting - no help! The most you can do is to get cross with such a person

④ Evil spirit: Signs of ailments & sicknesses described to evil spirits - epilepsy - We regard it as a primitive concept which we reject (Africans -

But what must the disc: have done?

a) They should not have believed in their own power but in that of the Lord

4.

b) They should definitely have prayed for the healing of the son of this man

c) They should have understood that ~~an~~ ~~if~~ illness is a revelation of the brokenness of our existence and the world of men - that our life is beset with evil powers which will only be conquered finally with the return of God.