

Upside Down is Right Side Up (Mark 1:7)

Introduction: *In almost every area of life: “up” is good & “down” is bad, but...*

I. AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS: DOWNWARD, SMALLER, LESSER IS BETTER

A. Note these passages that show us – **upside down is right side up**

1. Mark 1:7
2. Mark 9:34
3. Matthew 16:24
4. John 3:30
5. John 1:29

B. The life & example of John the Baptizer shows us the way

II. JESUS HIMSELF IS THE MODEL OF UPSIDE DOWN IS RIGHT SIDE UP

- A. He gave up His place in heaven to come down to us as our Saviour
- B. He who was the highest became the lowest... at the cross
- C. Paul describes this beautifully in Philippians 2:5-11
- D. Jesus explains this so well in Mark 10:45

III. AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS, WE WANT TO LIVE THE TRUTH OF UPSIDE DOWN IS RIGHT SIDE UP

- A. We strive to be like John the Baptizer, “decreasing” so Jesus can “increase”
- B. We reexamine why we “come to church”
- C. We come to: lift up the name of Jesus, serve God & others, & bring another person with us
- D. As individuals & a congregation we DON’T ask: “*What’s in it for me?*”
- E. We DO ask: “*What best serves God & the eternal needs of others?*”

Conclusion: ***Upside down is right side up... may it be our way, O Lord***