

Exegetical Notes, Matthew 20:17-19

“Going to Jerusalem”

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Matthew 20:17-19

Verse 17

Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them,

- This verse begins Jesus’ final journey to Jerusalem. This trip will end in his crucifixion and resurrection from the dead.
- As they made this journey, Jesus told the disciples privately what would happen to him in Jerusalem.

Verse 18-19

“We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day, he will be raised to life!”

- Note that Jesus accurately predicts the events of the days ahead related to his arrest, crucifixion and resurrection. That means that he fully understood what he was facing in Jerusalem but did not turn away from it. He went there fully informed as to what would happen to him.
- Note the lack of response to this revelation from Jesus on the part of the disciples. They do not seem to be affected by this news at all.

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