

## **SERMON: THE ROAD TO CALVARY**

### **Luke 9:51**

**And it came to pass, when the time was come that He should be received up, He stedfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem.**

### **Introduction**

There are critical times in the life of every individual when he or she must “make it happen.” There are many figures of speech to express this phenomenon. “This is where the rubber meets the road.” “It’s show time at the Apollo.” “Today is game day.” “It’s put up or shut up time.” “A man got to do what a man got to do.” Yes, there are times when we must “make it happen.” It can be negative or positive. It could be a difficult conversation with a friend. Now we call these conversations “come to Jesus moments.” It could be a collegiate music student performing their senior recital. It could be a preacher speaking at a national religious convention. It could be a field goal kicker who can win the ball game with three seconds on the clock. It could be something one has planned for years, but now it is time to execute it. Unfortunately, it could be the termination of an unproductive employee after lenient progressive discipline. Sometimes it is a tough decision that life throws at you and you wish you did not have to make it. It could be the need to sever a toxic personal relationship. It could be when things are so far out of hand that procrastination is no longer a viable option. It could be the chance of a lifetime and you don’t want to blow it. There are times you just need to be on your a-game and there are times when you must tell the truth, but tell it in love. There are times when you need to do what’s right no matter the personal cost to you.

In our text Jesus is making a pivotal and irreversible turn toward a hill in Jerusalem called Calvary. Luke makes it clear that Jesus will allow nothing to distract or side track Him from His forward movement toward Jerusalem. Even His body language and facial expressions verified His determination to go to Calvary. Jesus knew His trip to Jerusalem was not a fun-filled vacation, but the painful conclusion of His earthly vocation.

The greatest part of Jesus’ ministry was performed in Galilee. The people of Galilee loved Him so much that they wanted to make Him their king. If Jesus had taken the easy road and stayed in Galilee, He would have never gone to the Cross and we would have never had the opportunity to be saved. Thank God! He took the difficult road to Calvary. Let’s review this pericope and extract some spiritual and practical truths.

## **Exposition**

### **1. Before You Can Do What You Want To Do, You Have To Do Something Else.**

(What You Want To Do Is Not The Problem- The Something Else Is The Problem.)

(Sometimes We Don't Know What The Something Else Is.)

(Sometimes We Don't Know How To Do The Something Else.)

(Sometimes We Know What It Is, But Just Don't Want To Do It.)

Jesus Was Willing To Do The Something Else To Save Us.

Jesus Went To The Cross.

### **2. Start With The Goal In Mind- Continue With The Goal In Mind.**

(Jesus Never Forgot His Main Mission – The Path To Salvation.)

(We Must Complete Our God-Given Assignments.)

### **3. Face Difficulties with Faith & Courage.**

(No Weapon Formed Against Us Can Prosper.)

(Nothing Can Separate Us From The Love Of God.)

(Remember Daniel, The Three Hebrew Boys, And Esther.)

## **Closing Thoughts**

Jesus is our perfect example. He did the right thing, in the right way, for the right reason. Just think again. What if Jesus had taken the easy road and stayed in Galilee? I am so glad He took the road to Calvary. Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory!

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