

Against ambition

10 ³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and said to him:

—Master, we want you to grant us what we are going to ask of you.

³⁶And he said:

—What do you want me to do for you?

³⁷They answered:

—Grant us to sit one at your right and one at your left when you come in your glory.

³⁸But Jesus said to them:

—You don't know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized in the way I am baptized? ³⁹They answered:

—We can.

And Jesus told them:

—The cup that I drink you will drink, and you will be baptized in the way I am baptized.

⁴⁰But to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to grant. It has been prepared for others.

⁴¹On hearing this, the other ten were angry with James and John; ⁴²Jesus then called them to him and said:

—As you know, the so-called rulers of the nations act as tyrants and their great ones oppress them. ⁴³But it shall not be so among you; whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you shall make himself slave of all. ⁴⁵Think of the Son of Man who has not come to be served but to serve and to give his life to redeem many.

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