

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark



The Evangelists St. Mark and St. Luke by Matthias Stom, 1635

Introduction/Biography/Life of Mark/Mark in The Bible:

Mark was an Evangelist, an early Christian church leader, and author of the Gospel book which bears his name. Like a number of other Apostles and Disciples he was known by two names. Mark (Marcus) was his Roman name, and John was his Jewish name. He is called John in Acts 13:5, 13, and Mark in Acts 15:39 and 2 Timothy 4:11. His Roman name was used as the title of his Gospel probably to avoid the confusion between him and The Apostle John and his writings.

Acts 12:12

¹² And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of **John, whose surname was Mark**; where many were gathered together praying.

John means = Jehovah has been gracious, Graced by Jehovah.

Mark means = hammer, warlike, of the Roman war god Mars.

Marcus is Latin for Mark.

There are **1,499,962** people in the U.S. with the first name Mark. Statistically it is the 18th most popular first name.

Mark's Family

Mark's Mother = Mary (Jew), Acts 12:12, Father (Gentile/Roman/assumed) is not mentioned.

Mark's Mother's house was apparently a popular place for Christians, where many people gathered and prayed (Acts 12:12). It was the first place that the apostle Peter went to after an Angel freed him from Herod's prison (Acts 12:6-12).

Mark's Uncle = Barnabas

Colossians 4:10

¹⁰ Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him;)

Mark in The Bible:

It is believed that Mark was one of The 70 sent out by Jesus.

Luke 10:1, 17

1 After these things the LORD appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

Luke 10:17

¹⁷ And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

Mark may have been the young man who fled The Garden of Gethsemane and left his clothes in the hands of The Lord's enemies.

Mark 14:51-52

⁵¹ And there followed him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body; and the young men laid hold on him:

⁵² And he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked.



Mark The Evangelist: Paul and Barnabas take Mark on their First Missionary Journey.

Acts 13:5

⁵ And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

Halfway through The Journey Mark returned home.

Acts 13:13

¹³ Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: **and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.**

As Paul and Barnabas began their Second Missionary Journey, John Mark became a source of sharp contention between the two. Barnabas was determined to give John Mark another chance. Paul was against it.

Acts 15:36-40

³⁶ And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the LORD, and see how they do.

³⁷ And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark.

³⁸ But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.

³⁹ And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus;

⁴⁰ And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.

Paul's attitude towards Mark changes later. Mark becomes a part of Paul's ministry! Around 60 AD, Paul writes two letters from prison. One is to the Church at Colosse and the other to a man named Philemon. As he closes these letters he mentions John Mark by name as being present with him.

Colossians 4:10

¹⁰ Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, **and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas**, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him;)

Philemon 1:23-24

²³ There salute thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ Jesus;

²⁴ **Marcus**, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.

Mark ministered with Peter afterwards, and Peter mentions his presence in 1 Peter 5:13:

1 Peter 5:13

¹³The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; **and so doth Marcus my son.**

II Timothy, Written from Rome: Paul's "Swan Song" Epistle. Paul wrote this near the time of his death (68 A.D.) when he was beheaded by Nero. Before being executed, he calls for John Mark.

2 Timothy 4:9-11

⁹Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me:

¹⁰For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

¹¹Only Luke is with me. **Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.**

Mark then disappears from The Bible.

Mark was one of the fortunate few who may have seen and heard Jesus Christ during His human lifetime. He witnessed the birth and growth of the Christian church, and personally knew most of the greatest early Christians before becoming one himself!

According to Church Historians:

Mark went to Alexandria, a Greco-Roman city in Egypt with a large Jewish population. It's believed that he was the Pastor of the church at Alexandria and at some point, John Mark was martyred there.

The Book of Mark:

The **Gospel According to Mark**, the second book of the New Testament; is one of the four canonical gospels and the three synoptic gospels. Mark's Gospel was written at a time when the Church was first experiencing great persecution.

The Writer: **John Mark**, who was an Apostle of Peter and a missionary companion of Paul and Barnabas.

Peter and The Gospel of Mark

John Mark wrote The Gospel of Mark in "association" with the Apostle Peter.

"Mark, who became Peter's interpreter, wrote accurately, though not in order, all that he remembered of the things said or done by the Lord. For he had neither heard the Lord nor been one of his followers, but afterwards, as I said, he had followed Peter, who used to compose his

discourses with a view to the needs of his hearers, but not as though he were drawing up a connected account of the Lord's sayings. So Mark made no mistake in thus recording some things just as he remembered them. For he was careful of this one thing, to omit none of the things he had heard and to make no untrue statements therein." (**Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.39.15**)

Irenaeus said Mark wrote his Gospel from Peter's teaching:

In his book, "Against Heresies" (Book 3 Chapter 1), Irenaeus (130-200 AD) also reported Mark penned his Gospel as a scribe for Peter, adding the following detail: "Matthew composed his gospel among the Hebrews in their own language, while Peter and Paul proclaimed the gospel in Rome and founded the community. After their departure, Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, handed on his preaching to us in written form."

Mark composed his gospel mostly from Peter's memoirs - **Justin Martyr, 150 A.D**

Date Written: Around 57-63 A.D.

41st Book of The Bible!

Chapters: 16, Verses: 678, Words: 15,166

Mark's Uniqueness:

Mark 6:3

³Is not this **the carpenter, the son of Mary**, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and **are not his sisters here with us?** And they were offended at him.

Mark 6:3 is the only place in the New Testament Jesus is referred to as "the son of Mary".

Mark 6:3 is the only place that states that Jesus has Sisters.

Mark 6:3 is the only gospel where Jesus himself is called a carpenter. In Matthew he is called "the carpenter's son" (Matthew 13:55).

Only Mark counts the possessed swine; there are about two thousand, Mark 5:13.

Only Mark states that Jesus "is beside himself" or Jesus is "going crazy"!

Mark 3:21

²¹And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, **He is beside himself.**

Only Mark states that The Mount of Olives is across from The Temple.

Mark 13:3

³ And as he sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately,

The story of the Passion of Jesus takes up almost one third of Mark's Gospel!

Mark is the only Gospel that doesn't mention The Samaritans.

Mark records nineteen miracles, but only four parables.

Only Mark identifies Simon of Cyrene as the father of Rufus.

Mark 15:21

²¹ And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross. Compare:

Romans 16:13

¹³ Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.

The Four Gospels:**Ezekiel 1:3-5 (Spiritual Application)**

³ The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him.

⁴ And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

⁵ Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of **four living creatures**. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man.

Matthew presents Jesus as the promised Messiah, the King of the Jews.

Luke presents Jesus as The Son of Man.

John presents Jesus as The Son of God.

Mark presents Jesus as a **Servant**.

The Gospel of Mark's Key Verses:**Jesus The Servant Mark 10:45**

⁴⁵ For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mark's Key Verse to The Church:

Mark 8:34

³⁴ And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Mark's "favorite words": immediately (17 times) and straightway (19 times).

Scofield Reference Bible Notes:

The best preparation of the heart for the study of Mark is the prayerful reading of Isaiah 42:1-21 ;50:4-11;52:13-53:12 ; Zechariah 3:8 ; Philippians 2:5-8 .

Mark is in five principal divisions:

1. The manifestation of the Servant-Son, 1:1-11.
2. The Servant-Son tested as to His fidelity, 1:12,13.
3. The Servant-Son at work, 1:14-13:37.
4. The Servant-Son "obedient unto death," 14:1-15:47.
5. The ministry of the risen Servant-Son, now exalted to all authority, 16:1-20.

The events recorded in this book cover a period of 7 years.

Literary Style:

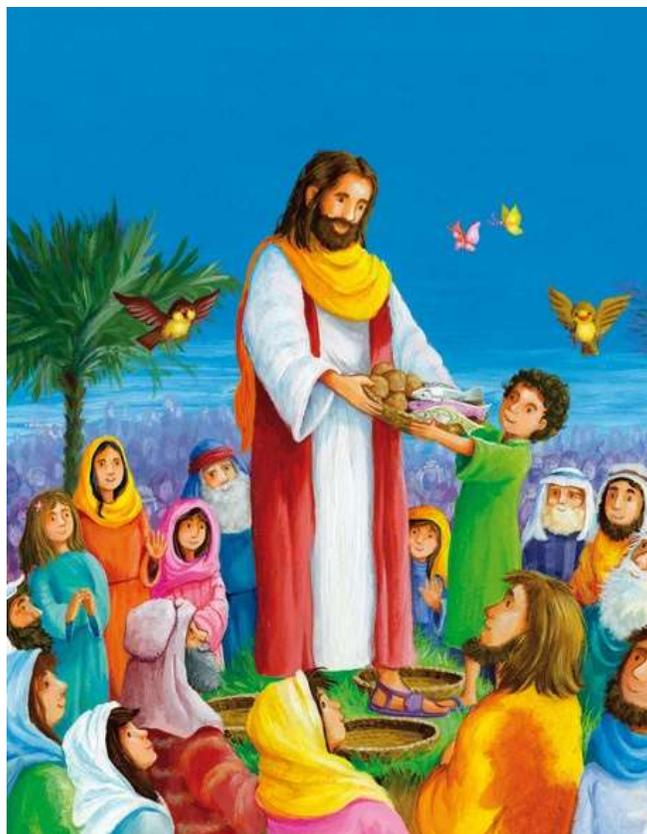
Mark's Gospel is given in the form of a story. Mark is a compact, action-oriented Gospel. Mark omits the birth and genealogy of Jesus, and moves straight into His baptism and Ministry. The teaching passages in Mark seem condensed when compared to other Gospels.

The book of Mark was probably written for Romans. Mark's Gospel was written in 'koine' Greek, that is, in the language of common speech, the kind spoken by the lower classes in Rome, Mark often explained Jewish words, customs, and places. He used Roman time rather than Hebrew time. And he translated some words into Latin. Because Mark's intended audience was the Gentiles, he does not quote as frequently from the Old Testament as Matthew, who was writing primarily to the Jews.

Mark's Greek conveys some graphic information. This may be explained by the fact that he is drawing on the firsthand accounts of eyewitnesses. For example, his description of the Feeding of the Five Thousand - they sat "by companies upon the green grass" (Mark 6:39), or his account of the blind man whose recovery of sight was gradual and who first declared that he saw men who looked 'as trees walking" (Mark 8:24).

Mark 6:39

³⁹ And he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass.

**Mark 8:24**

²⁴ And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking.



Mark Chapter 1

The entire first year of our Lord's ministry is presented in this first chapter.

Mark summarized the ministry of John the Baptist (Mark 1:1-8), related the baptism of Christ (Mark 1:9-11), and recorded the temptation (Mark 1:12-13) in the first brief section of things preparatory to Jesus' ministry. He then immediately launched into his narrative of the Lord's ministry principally in the vicinity of Capernaum (Mark 1:14-4:34), the following events being related in this chapter: (1) Jesus begins to preach (Mark 1:14-15); (2) he calls four disciples (Mark 1:16-20); (3) casts an unclean spirit out of a man on the sabbath day (Mark 1:21-28); heals Simon Peter's wife's mother of a fever (Mark 1:29-31); casts out many devils (Mark 1:32-34); extends his ministry to all Galilee (Mark 1:35-39); and cleanses a leper (Mark 1:40-45).

Verse 1 The beginning of **the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;**

“the gospel of Jesus Christ” Means "the good news" in the New Testament. It is the joyful words of how men and women may receive the forgiveness of sins and restore the broken fellowship with God,

“the Son of God” The Gospel of Mark begins by emphasizing the deity of our Lord. The Servant is “the Son of God.” These words, "the Son of God," conveyed far more to Jewish minds than they do to ours. They were nothing less than an assertion of our Lord's divinity. They were a declaration that Jesus was Himself very God, and "equal with God."

John 5:18

¹⁸ Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, **but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.**

The Ministry of John the Baptist:

Teaching Moment!

Verse 2 As it is written in the **prophets**, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

“prophets” Most modern corrupt Bible versions change “prophets” to **Isaiah**.

Mark 1:2 NIV

² as it is written in **Isaiah** the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”

Mark 1:2 New American Standard Bible

² As it is written in **Isaiah** the prophet:

“BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY;

The quotation from Mark 1:2 didn't come from Isaiah, it came from Malachi 3:1!

Now let's read Mark 1:2 from The King James Bible again!

Verse 2 As it is written in the **prophets**, Behold, I send my **messenger** before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

You notice it say "**prophets**", which is **PLURAL**!

First Mark quotes Malachi 3:1

1 Behold, I will send my **messenger**, and he shall prepare the way before me: **and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple**, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

Side Note: "and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple Malachi 3:1 Identifies Jesus as The Jehovah of The Old Testament! LORD in capitals = Jehovah!

Then Mark quotes from Isaiah 40:3

Verse 3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the **Lord**, make his paths straight.

Isaiah 40:3

³The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the **LORD**, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

In Mark 1:2-3, Mark is quoting (2) OT Prophets: Malachi and Isaiah! And these passages both prove The Deity of "The Servant", **Jesus Christ**!

Now, what was John crying about in verse 3? John was sent to "Prepare ye the way of the **LORD**".

Crying means: Uttering a loud voice; proclaiming! John was proclaiming The Good News!

The Good News isn't an Earthly Kingdom; The Good News is The LORD Jesus Christ! The Jews had many Earthly Kingdoms for many years. The answer is Israel's problems and the answer to any Country isn't another Human King, the answer to all the World is The Good News, The LORD Jesus Christ!

Verse 4 John did baptize in the wilderness, **and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.**

John Baptized in The River Jordan in the wilderness, "**and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins**" John is Preaching REPENTANCE for the remission of SINS.

REPENTANCE Means: is a change of mind, or a conversion from sin to God.

for Means "because of".

Remission Means: Forgiveness; pardon; that is, the giving up of the punishment due to a crime; as the remission of sins.

Some people confuse the meaning of this verse. This doesn't mean that if you get Baptized your Sins will be forgiven.

John is Preaching Repentance and those who respond (repent) and submit to John's Preaching was Baptized. John is saying: "If you repent, I will Baptize you!"

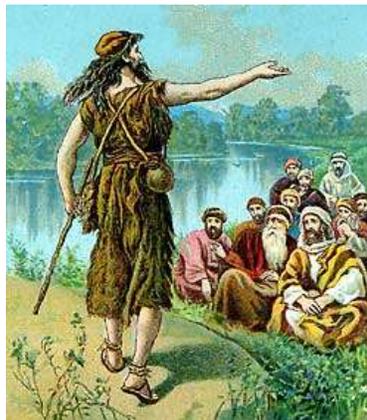
This describes how John prepared the way. He **came baptizing**, offering a ceremonial washing-Baptism in the River Jordan for confessed sin and repentance. **Baptism** simply means to "immerse in water." Baptism=Immersion means: The act of putting someone or something completely in a liquid or the state of being completely in a liquid.

John didn't sprinkle when he **came baptizing**. As was the custom in some other Jewish ceremonial washings, John completely immersed those he baptized. "Naturally, therefore, the baptism was not a mere sprinkling with water, but a bath in which his whole body was bathed."

Verse 5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

There were many people who recognized their sinfulness, their need to get ready for the Messiah, and were willing to *do* something about it!

Verse 6 And **John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;**



John may have looked dressed like this:



And ate these:

Locusts are a type of insect from the family Acrididae and also are known as grasshoppers. Locusts swarm in huge numbers and can travel great distances, causing considerable damage to crops. However, in many African, Middle Eastern and Asian countries, locusts are considered a delicacy and eaten in abundance. Locusts are an excellent source of protein and contain a variety of fatty acids and minerals. Locusts, like many insects, are an excellent source of protein. According to the book “Insects” by Steve Parker, species of locusts vary in protein content from about 50 percent of dry weight to almost 60 percent, making them denser in protein than cows. Locusts also contain adequate amounts of iodine, phosphorus, iron, thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, as well as traces of calcium, magnesium and selenium. Carbohydrate levels are very low in locusts, which makes them a good candidate for Atkins and Paleo types of diets. Some people describe cooked locust as similar to smoky flavored bacon and reasonably tasty.



“Honey: The Perfect Food,” the following excerpt was found in the booklet titled, Healing from the Hive, authored by R. Elkins: Dr. Paavo O. Airola, author of Health Secrets from Europe has written: “Honey is a perfect food. It contains large amounts of vitamins, minerals, being particularly rich in vitamins B and C. It contains almost all vitamins of the B-complex, which are needed in the system for the digestion and metabolism of sugar. Honey is also rich in minerals such as calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, potassium, silicon, etc. This is specifically true of the darker varieties, such as buckwheat. The vitamin C content varies considerably, depending on the source of the nectar. Some kinds may contain as much as 300 milligrams of vitamin C per 100 grams of honey.” Honey is a source of rapidly supplied energy. Due to its perfect sugar formula it requires no intermediate steps for proper digestion. It truly is a marvel of God’s supernatural design. Apart from also being a salve and antibiotic, honey cannot have bacteria living in it.

Verse 6: In his personality and ministry, John the Baptist was patterned after the bold Elijah, who fearlessly called Israel to repentance!

2 Kings 1:8

⁸ And they answered him, He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite.

Verse 7 **And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.**

“And preached” In verse 4 John did preach and in verse 7, he preached! Man doesn't like Preaching, but it pleases God!

1 Corinthians 1:21

²¹ For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.



“The backslider likes the preaching that wouldn't hit the side of a house, while the real disciple is delighted when the truth brings him to his knees.” – Billy Sunday

“There cometh one mightier than I after me” The message of John the Baptist was simple. John preached Jesus, not himself. John pointed to Jesus, not to himself.

Paul said in: **Ephesians 3:8**

⁸ Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

“the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.”

John was not Jesus's equal, he wasn't Jesus's co-partner, he wasn't even worthy to stoop down and unloosed The Lord's shoes!

John was a humble man, he may have Preached hard, but his heart wasn't hard!

We as Christians have to remember to be humble like John! Be warned of Ego, Pride and Boasting!

John's main message wasn't “You're a sinner, you need to repent.” John's main message was *“The Messiah is coming.”* The call to repentance was the *response* to the news that the Messiah was coming.

Verse 8 I indeed have baptized you with water: **but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.**

In Matthew's Gospel we read the parallel passage:

Matthew 3:11-12

¹¹ I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with _____: (fill in the blank)

¹² Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

John came baptizing those who confessed their sins and thus professed repentance. He baptized them in the wilderness of Judea, immersing them in the turbulent waters of the Jordan, the river that symbolized death. Multitudes went out to him from all the surrounding and contiguous territory and responded to his message. Their baptism was not in any sense a praiseworthy act, but it was the acknowledgment that they accepted the message and admitted their need of cleansing and forgiveness.

“but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost” Is a reference to the Spirit which Jesus would pour out on earth. I’m glad The Lord Jesus Christ Baptizes us into His Body by the Baptism of The Holy Ghost! (1 Corinthians 12:13)

Seven Major Baptisms. You have some Baptisms that are physical-by water immersion, and some Baptisms are spiritual-by showing identification/union with something.

1. Baptism of Moses:

The children of Israel are identified with Moses and the cloud as they passed through the Red Sea.

1 Corinthians 10:1-2

¹ Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

² And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

2. Jesus’ Baptism at Calvary, also called Baptism of the Cross or Cup.

Matthew 20:22-23

²² But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.

²³ And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

3. Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:5

⁵ For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

4. John's Baptism: The Baptism of Repentance. Mark chapter 1.

Acts 18:25

²⁵ This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, **knowing only the baptism of John.**

5. The Believer's Baptism Into The One Body of Christ by the Holy Spirit when the person got saved.

1 Corinthians 12:13

¹³ For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

6. Baptism of the believer in the Church Age Dispensation. The Believer's Baptism by Immersion in Water.

Acts 16:30-34

³⁰ And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

³¹ And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

³² And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

³³ And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

³⁴ And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

7. Baptism of Fire.

Matthew 3:11

¹¹ I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

Fire is one of the physical manifestations of God's presence. This is illustrated several times in the Bible: the making of the covenant with Abraham ([Genesis 15:17](#)), the appearance in the burning bush ([Exodus 3:2](#)), God leading the Israelites by a pillar of fire by night ([Exodus 13:21-22](#)). The statement "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire," means that Jesus had and has the ability to immerse (baptize) people in the presence of God so that they are aware of their sin and the need they have to be cleansed of that sin. To be baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire is to be convicted concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.

John 16:8

⁸ And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

****The Special Baptism of Jesus**

Unique Baptism; Water was used. Jesus Christ was not a sinner. Water is symbolic of the Father's will. Jesus Christ identified Himself with the Father's will in the execution of our salvation.

Verse 9

And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

****The Special Baptism of Jesus:**

Unique Baptism; Water was used. Jesus Christ was not a sinner seeking remission and repentance.

Remember, Baptism doesn't take away your sins!

Remember, Baptism doesn't Save you! Unless you're a Roman Catholic, Church of Christ or most Main line Protestants...

Why is Jesus being Baptized? It was not because He needed cleansing from sin, because Jesus was sinless, as John himself understood ([Matthew 3:14](#)).

Matthew 3:14

¹⁴ But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

Instead, Jesus was baptized in keeping with His entire mission on earth: to identify with sinful man. Jesus didn't *have* to be baptized. **He also didn't *have* to die on a cross in our place. He did both things to express His solidarity with fallen man.**

Jesus's Baptism also was the starting point of His Public Ministry!

Acts 1:21-22

²¹ Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

²² **Beginning from the baptism of John**, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

Likewise, a Christian's baptism can be seen as the beginning of their lifelong service to God. Also, Christ's Baptism set an obvious example for all Christians in submitting to baptism, leaving none of us any excuse for not submitting to it as well.

Verse 10

And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, **and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:**

Baptism=Immersion= The act of putting someone or something completely in a liquid or the state of being completely in a liquid.

“And straightway coming up out of the water” John wasn’t Sprinkling, John wasn’t Pouring. If Jesus is coming up out of the water, then Jesus must have been in the water!

“and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:” Matthew 3:16 says: “Spirit of God”

Matthew 3:16

¹⁶ And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

Verse 11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

What a strange scene! You have the Humble beginnings:

Jesus: A common, unremarkable name.

From Nazareth: An unremarkable, despised village.

Of Galilee: The “unspiritual” region, not the “Bible belt” of the area at that time.

Was Baptized: Identifying with sinful man.

In the Jordan: An unremarkable - often even unpleasant - river. “Early rabbinic tradition explicitly disqualifies the River Jordan for purification, [according to] The Mishnah, *Parah* VIII. 10.”



Here you have The Trinity in plain view!

1. The Spirit like a dove is descending upon Jesus.

2. Jesus is standing in the water.

3. The Father is speaking in Heaven!

1 John 5:7

⁷For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

Teaching Moment:

Here are just some of the many Bible Verses mentioning The Trinity!

Just Tape this list on your front door so the neighborhood JW's can weep!

Matthew 3:16-17 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁶And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

¹⁷And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Matthew 28:19 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁹Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Luke 1:35 King James Version (KJV)

³⁵And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

John 14:26 King James Version (KJV)

²⁶But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16:13-15 King James Version (KJV)

¹³Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

¹⁴ He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

¹⁵ All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

John 20:21-22 King James Version (KJV)

²¹ Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

Romans 1:4 King James Version (KJV)

⁴ And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

Romans 8:9 King James Version (KJV)

⁹ But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Romans 15:16 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁶ That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

1 Corinthians 6:11 King James Version (KJV)

¹¹ And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 King James Version (KJV)

²¹ Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;

²² Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

2 Corinthians 13:14 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

Galatians 4:6 King James Version (KJV)

⁶ And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

Ephesians 2:18 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁸ For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

Ephesians 3:14-16 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁴ For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

¹⁵ Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

¹⁶ That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

Ephesians 4:4-6 King James Version (KJV)

⁴ There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

⁵ One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

⁶ One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Hebrews 9:14 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁴ How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

1 Peter 1:2 King James Version (KJV)

² Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Jude 1:20-21 King James Version (KJV)

²⁰ But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

²¹ Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Genesis 1:26 King James Version (KJV)

²⁶ And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Genesis 3:22 King James Version (KJV)

²² And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

Genesis 11:7 King James Version (KJV)

⁷ Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

Isaiah 6:8 King James Version (KJV)

⁸ Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

Isaiah 48:16 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁶ Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, there am I: and now the Lord GOD, and his Spirit, hath sent me.

Isaiah 61:1 King James Version (KJV)

¹ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

Genesis 18:1-2 King James Version (KJV)

¹ And the **LORD** appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

² And he lift up his eyes and looked, **and, lo, three men stood by him**: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

John 14:23 King James Version (KJV)

²³ Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and **we** will come unto him, and make **our** abode with him.

Isaiah 6:3 King James Version (KJV)

³ And one cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD** of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Revelation 4:8 King James Version (KJV)

⁸ And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, **Holy, holy, holy, LORD God Almighty**, which was, and is, and is to come.

Acts 10:38 King James Version (KJV)

³⁸ How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

SO far in the Gospel of Mark we see four witnesses, each testifying to the identity of Jesus. What more evidence do we need?

Mark said Jesus is the *Son of God* (Mark 1:1).

The prophets said Jesus is *LORD* (Mark 1:2-3).

John the Baptist said Jesus was the *One after me who is mightier than I* (Mark 1:7-8).

God the Father said Jesus is the *Beloved Son of God* (Mark 1:10-11).

Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, among the wild beasts:

Verse 12 And immediately the spirit driveth him into the wilderness.

Verse 13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

Here we see the brevity of Mark's account of The Temptation. Matthew and Luke provide more details.

40 Forty Means Probation or Testing.

Noah and his Family were tested for 40 days on The Ark.

Genesis 7:4

⁴ For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth **forty days and forty nights**; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

The Children of Israel in The Wilderness for 40 years!

Deuteronomy 2:7

⁷ For the LORD thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the LORD thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing.

Forty days Moses was in the mount and to receive the Law. Moses also fasted 40 days. Exodus 24:18

Forty days Moses was in the mount after the sin of the Golden Calf, Deut. 9:18,25.

Forty days of the spies, issuing in the penal sentence of the 40 years.

Numbers 14:34

³⁴ After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

The reigns of Saul, David and Solomon each lasted Forty years.

Goliath defied Israel for Forty days.

1 Samuel 17:16

¹⁶ And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

Elijah fasted 40 days.

1 Kings 19:8

⁸ And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

Nineveh was given 40 days to repent!

Jonah 3:4

⁴ And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

In Matthew, Jesus fasted 40 days, and during those Forty days Jesus was tempted of the Devil.

Matthew 4:2

² And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

Jesus appeared eleven times during Forty days after His Resurrection.

Acts 1:1-3

¹ The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

² Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

³ To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them **forty days**, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Forty is the only number whose letters are in alphabetical order (forty).

“and the angels ministered unto him” This shows Jesus’ authority, not only over **the wild beasts**, but also over **the angels**. They are His servants. The reality of the Holy Angels is affirmed throughout the New Testament. Angels announced the birth of Jesus Christ, ministered to him in the wilderness, strengthened him in Gethsemane, announced his resurrection, escorted him to glory, and announced the second coming.

John put into Prison:

Verse 14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,

There is a detailed description of this, and John’s fate in prison, in Mark 6:17-28.

Jesus The Preacher:

Verse 15 And saying, **The time is fulfilled**, and **the kingdom of God** is at hand: **repent ye, and believe the gospel**.

Jesus was a Preacher and He Preached The Gospel!

“The time is fulfilled.” His idea was, “The strategic time for the kingdom of God is now. Now is your time of opportunity. Don’t let it pass you by.”

2 Corinthians 6:2

² (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

“the kingdom of God” Brief Overview of the Two Kingdoms:

The Kingdom of Heaven (Ouranos) – a physical, literally, earthly kingdom; just as heaven is physical, so is this kingdom. Only found in Matthew’s Gospel (33 times) because it is a Jewish Gospel emphasizing the Son of Man and the literal, physical, earthly kingdom; Reign over the

physical realm, preached only to the Jews and will be preached again by Jews during the tribulation. The kingdom of heaven is not referring to the third heaven.

The Kingdom of God (Theos) – a spiritual kingdom, just like God is a Spirit (John 4:24), so is this kingdom. Found throughout the New Testament emphasizing the Son of God and a spiritual kingdom. Reign over the Spiritual Realm You enter the kingdom of God by the new birth (John 3:3-5). The kingdom of God is you in the Holy Ghost and the Holy Ghost in you, Christ in you and you in Christ.

“repent ye, and believe the gospel” – Believe The Good News!

When it comes to Salvation you must Repent and Believe!

Repentance of Sins + Believe/Faith in The Gospel/Jesus = Salvation/Conversion

Acts 3:19

¹⁹ Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Jesus calls four Disciples:

Verse 16 Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

¹⁷ And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.



¹⁸ And **straightway** they forsook their nets, and followed him.

¹⁹ And when he had gone a little farther thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets.

²⁰ And **straightway** he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.



Because of Mark's brevity it would appear that Jesus just walks up Peter, Andrew, James and John and says: "follow Me" and the Men drop everything and follow Jesus.

This isn't the first time they've met Jesus, they knew Jesus, they heard Jesus speak, they observed Jesus, they witnessed the Miracles of Jesus... John mentions their earlier encounter in:

John 1:35-42

³⁵ Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples;

³⁶ And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!

³⁷ And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸ Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?

³⁹ He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.

⁴⁰ One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

⁴¹ He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

This was Jesus calling them to Discipleship!

Luke 9:62

⁶² And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

The Galilee Region

The Sea of Galilee also known as Bahr Tubariya, Ginnosar, Lake of Galilee, Lake of Gennesaret, Lake of Gennesar, Sea of Chinnereth, Sea of Chinneroth, Sea of Kinnereth, Sea of Tiberias, Lake of Tiberias, Waters of Gennesaret, Yam Kinneret is the lowest freshwater lake on earth at approximately 700 ft below sea level. At its widest points, the lake measures 13 mi from north to south and 7.5 mi from east to west. The lake's total area is 64 sq. miles and its circumference is about 32 miles. Its deepest point has been estimated between 140-200 ft and its capacity is approximately three billion cubic meters (one hundred billion cubic ft).

Today Yam Kinneret, as Israelis know it, is the primary source of water for the nation and as such the government carefully regulates its outward flow to the Jordan River. The Degania dam was built in 1932 to control the water level and when the lake fills after good winter rainfalls, the Sea of Galilee is about 3.3 ft. higher than it was in the time of Christ. This is apparent from the level of the harbors that have survived from the first century.

St. Peter's Fish: Three types of fish were primarily sought by fishermen in antiquity in these waters. Sardines likely were the "two small fish" that the boy brought to the feeding of the 5000. Sardines and bread were the staple product of the locals. Barbels are so known because of the barbs at the corners of their mouths. The third type is called Musht but is more popularly known today as "St. Peter's Fish." This fish has a long dorsal fin which looks like a comb and can be up to 1.5 feet long and 3.3 lbs in weight.



Map of Galilee



Jesus spent most of His time in the region of **Galilee**, usually only going up to Jerusalem for the appointed feasts. Galilee was a large, populated area north of Judea and Jerusalem, where Jews and Gentiles lived together, though usually in their own distinct cities. Galilee was not a small, backwater region. According to the ancient Jewish historian Josephus, Galilee was an area of about 60 by 30 miles and had 204 villages, with none less than 15,000 people. This means there were more than 3 million people in the extended region.

The significance of the Sea of Galilee in Jesus' ministry is indicated by the fact that some of the first and some of the last events in His ministry occurred here. Shortly after the temptation, Jesus traveled to Capernaum with His family (John 2:12). Later Jesus would live in Capernaum and call four of His disciples from among the fishermen in the area (Mark 1). While He performed many miracles at points along the lakeshore, two of His most dramatic miracles were done on the water itself when He stilled the storm (Luke 8:22–25) and walked on the water (Mark 6:47–52). Following His resurrection, Jesus cooked breakfast on the shore for seven of the disciples (John 21).

John 2:12

¹² After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days.

The Rabbis declared of the Sea of Galilee that, “Although God has created seven seas, yet He has chosen this one as His special delight.” Certainly Jesus must have felt the same way.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

A busy day in Galilee:

Chapter 1, Verse 21 And they went into Capernaum; and **straightway** on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

Verse 22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had **authority**, and not as the scribes.

Astonished= Amazed; confounded with fear, surprise, or admiration.

We are not told what Jesus taught in Capernaum, but we are told of the **effect** the teaching had on His audience. They were **astonished**. They had never heard anyone teach quite like this before.

The Scribes of Jesus' day rarely taught boldly. They would often simply quote a variety of Rabbis as interpreters. Jesus taught with boldness.

Jesus taught and preached with Authority and with Power! Why? Because He taught God's Words! An example of what Jesus actually taught is found in:

Luke 4:15-22

¹⁵ And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all.

¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

¹⁷ And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

¹⁹ To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

²⁰ And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

²¹ And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

²² And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?

Jesus Taught with Authority because He Taught God's Words! He didn't teach Tradition or Man Made Commandments like The Scribes would teach.

First we see the *submitted* Jesus - submitted to His Father in baptism, submitted to the Holy Spirit in going out to the wilderness. Now we will see the *authority* of Jesus. Authority flows from submission.

-Authority when He was with the wild beasts.

-Authority when the angels served Him.

-Authority announcing the presence of the kingdom of God and commanding men to repent and believe.

-Authority calling disciples after Himself.

-Authority in Teaching in The Synagogue.

Jesus casts out unclean spirits in Capernaum:

Verse 23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an **unclean** spirit; and he cried out,

24 Saying, **Let us alone**; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? **I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.**

“**Let us alone**” That's what The Devil and his devils want. They want to be left alone. The Devil and his devils have control of people, Society, a Town, a Country and they just want to be left alone. They don't want Jesus and Holy Spirit filled Christians bothering them!

People, Society and Countries are unclean and need to be washed by The Blood of Jesus!

Note: Here we have a devil speaking. Every time in The Bible a devil speaks, the devil(s) always says that Jesus is God: “**I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God**”. What's sad is that there are many Cults and Liberal Pastors/Theologians that don't believe that Jesus is God.

“**art thou come to destroy us?**” Even the devils believe in Hell and The Lake of Fire which is their final destination. What's sad is that there are many Cults and Liberal Pastors/Theologians that don't believe in Hell!

We've got The Holy Spirit, our God is Holy, we have a Holy Bible and **the Holy One of God** is facing the unclean spirit and:

25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, **Hold thy peace**, and come out of him.

“**Hold thy peace**” Means: “be quite” Troublemakers and devils in the Church need to Hold thy peace!

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.



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God doesn't want the devil living inside of you; He wants His Holy Spirit living inside of you!

27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with **authority** commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

Again the Authority of Jesus over unclean spirits is being displayed!

Note: From Acts to Revelation we really don't read much on how to deal with Devil/Demon Possessed people. We're told how to deal with the sick and weak, how to deal with sin, how to deal with False Prophets and Wolves in Sheep's Clothing and how to deal with Church

Discipline. The Church's primary function is to Preach The Gospel and when people get Saved The Devil moves out and The Holy Spirit moves in!

The Bible mentions basically two types of satanic or demonic influence or control over men:

1. Demon Indwelling or Possession, where the devils actually **dwel inside the person**, influencing and manipulating him internally. (Here in Mark)

Mark 5:1-20 is the definitive passage on demon possession and its effects in the Bible.

Some of the details about demons the Bible reveals in this passage are:

1. Devils want to be near dead human bodies or tombs (vs. 2, 3, 5).
2. They can cause unusual strength (vs. 3-4).
3. They can make a person unreasonable or immune to sensible persuasion (vs. 4).
4. They cause excessive crying (vs. 5).
5. They cause sadistic and masochistic behavior (vs. 5).
6. They have an affinity for heights (vs. 5).
7. They recognize Christ as "the Son of God" and appeal to Him (vs. 6-7).
8. They know they deserve torment and dread it (vs. 6-7).
9. They have names (vs. 9).
10. More than one can possess the same body (vs. 9).
11. They desire to stay in the same geographical region or "country" (vs. 10).
12. They would rather indwell an animal body than none at all (vs. 12).
13. They can cause animals to kill themselves (vs. 13).
14. They desire to be in a body when it dies (vs. 13).
15. They have a desire for water (vs. 13).

Mark 9:17-29 gives us even more details about devils:

16. They can cause dumbness and deafness (vs. 17, 25).
17. They cause rabid animal like behavior (vs. 18).
18. They can indwell from childhood (vs. 21).
19. They cause suicidal behavior (vs. 22).
20. They resist leaving a body and violently "rent" it while leaving (vs. 26).
21. There are different kinds of devils. Some have more power than others (vs. 29).
22. Some can only be removed by prayer and fasting of believer (vs. 29).

2. Satanic or Demonic Oppression, where Satan or devils contact and influence people **externally; from the outside in.**

Here is a partial list of forms of occult activities and movements that are Satan's domain and should be shunned by everyone, especially Christians. Failure to do so may lead to Demonic Possession!

Astrology	Metamorphosis
Biological Feedback	Ouija Board
Black Mass	Parapsychology
Blood Pacts	Poltergeists
Some Charismatic Movements	Pornography
Christian Science	Predictive Dreams
Clairvoyance	Rock Music
Color Diagnosis	Rod and Pendulum
Conjuring Tricks	Satan Worship
Cults	Scientology
Death Magic	Sensitivity Training
Drug Abuse	Sixth and Seventh Books of Moses
Fortunetelling and Soothsaying	Soul Force
Ghosts	Spirit of the Age
Goblins and Elves	Spiritism
Group Suggestion	Spiritist Healing, Operations
Healing Fanaticism	Superstition
Homosexuality	Transcendental Meditation
Hypnotism	Translocation
Iris Diagnosis	Voodoo
Levitation	Yoga
Magic, Magic Charms	
Meditation	

Proverbs 14:12

¹² There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Five Paths Toward Demon Oppression and Possession

1. **Dabble in the occult and paranormal.** By engaging in occult and most paranormal activities such as **astrology, fortune-telling, clairvoyance, etc.**, you are entering Satan's arena and opening yourself to demonic attack.
2. **Seek aid or enlightenment from foreign spiritual influences.** Passively yielding one's mind through **meditation, hypnotism, yoga, etc.**, and seeking knowledge or information from any type of "spiritual entity" is an excellent way to become demon possessed.
3. **Seek power or authority from a supernatural source.** Using **witchcraft, sorcery, magic, charms, voodoo, etc.**, to give yourself power or influence over others in a supernatural manner is asking Satan to use you.

4. **Use or become addicted to drugs or alcohol.** Anything that alters one's senses and places him in a passive state can allow the entrance of devils. Many under the influence of drugs or alcohol have claimed to see demons or the Devil.

5. **Remain addicted to one's self.** Neglecting prayer, Bible study, fellowship, witnessing, and other faith building activities can cause one to dwell constantly upon himself. He is following after Satan's will and not God's will.

A Big debate among Christians is: **Can a Christian be Devil Possessed?**

2 Corinthians 11:3-4

³But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

⁴For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or **if ye receive another spirit**, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

"if ye receive ANOTHER SPIRIT, which ye have NOT received" Paul is indicating that a Christian who already has the Holy Spirit can receive another spirit besides!

The answer is "yes and no." *If* a Christian can be possessed he cannot be completely possessed because there is a part of every believer (the new nature) that is of God and is incorruptible; Satan can't touch it. If a believer is possessed, he is only possessed in his old, Adamic nature. This is unlike the lost man who only has the old nature; therefore, if he is possessed, he is completely possessed. But, on the other hand, to the Christian who is possessed (if possible), the possession would have the same effect as it would to a lost person. The person's body and mind would be subject to a devil.

Why would the Lord allow a blood-bought believer to fall in love with the world and live after the flesh after he gets saved? Why would He allow them to lie, cheat, steal, deceive, cause trouble with other believers, ruin his testimony, malign God's name, be vain, proud, arrogant, envious, jealous, and a dozen other sins and vices? The simple answer is God does not override or nullify **man's free will**.

28 And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

Throughout Galilee people are talking about Jesus!

29 And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

Peter's mother-in-law is healed:

Verse 30 But **Simon's wife's mother** lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her.

Anon means quickly.

“**Simon's wife's mother**” Points up the fact that Peter was a married man. Sorry Roman Catholic Church. A fact backed up by Paul's mention of Peter's wife in:

1 Corinthians 9:5

⁵Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?

31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

Again, Jesus's Authority over Physical/Medical ailments!

Peter's mother-in-law responds the way we should when Jesus blesses us. She immediately served Jesus out of gratitude!

Jesus Heals the multitude:

32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.

“**And at even, when the sun did set**” Jesus is working OT!

33 And all the city was gathered together at the door.

34 And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

It had been a busy day, and now Jesus ministers after nightfall to **all the city** that had **gathered together at the door**.

In Matthews Gospel he states this was here a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy:

Isaiah 53:4

⁴Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Jesus' Prays in a solitary place:

Chapter 1, Verse 35

³⁵ And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

After such a long day as the day before, wouldn't it be OK for Jesus to be "sleeping in"? Yet He, **in the morning, rising up a great while before day**, made less time for sleep and more time for **Prayer**.

We have two types of Prayer: Public and Private.

Matthew 6:6, Public

⁶ But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

This passage and many others shows us many things about the Prayer Life of Jesus.

Luke 6:12

¹² And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, **and continued all night in prayer to God.** (Churches-all-night Prayer Meeting!)

- For Jesus, fellowship with God was something for more than just the Sabbath.
- Jesus wanted to be alone to pray.
- Jesus wanted to be alone so He could pour out His heart to His Father.
- Jesus who had no Sin, Prayed!
- Jesus who was Holy, Prayed!

If Jesus Prayed then we should be a Praying People!

Here's some Tips on Prayer:

1. Choose a specific place to pray away from distractions so you can concentrate. Ringing phones and crying children will sabotage your "quiet time" before it gets started.
2. Pray at the same time every day, if at all possible. Make it part of your regular routine and it will become habit. Write it into your schedule and then treat it just like a daily appointment.
3. It's good to Pray out loud at times. Many people can pray under their breath or in their minds for long periods and still maintain intensity, but for most of us it's a quick ticket to dreamland. When we pray out loud we have to form intelligent sentences. We have to concentrate more on what we're praying about.

4. Keep a note pad handy so you can jot down different things that come to mind while you're before the Lord. Sometimes you'll get great ideas totally unrelated to what you've been praying about. If you jot them down you can quickly get back to the topic at hand without being too distracted.

5. Make a list to keep track of your prayer needs. This can be done several ways. Prayer needs can be listed by category like "Church," "Family," or "Unsaved friends." Or they may be listed by the days of the week. Each day you pray for a different set of needs. You may want to include prayer everyday for a different area of society that has a tremendous influence on the direction of our nation. These seven categories include 1) the church and religion, 2) the family and the home, 3) the media, 4) government, 5) education, 6) business and commerce, and 7) the arts and entertainment.

6. Redeem time for praying out of unused corners of your schedule. Those who have to drive to work can use the time talking with the Lord instead of screaming at traffic (just don't close your eyes!). Busy homemakers can combine prayer with housework, especially if the task doesn't require a lot of concentration. Joggers, swimmers and cyclists can use their workout time for prayer. Sometimes my best times with the Lord have been chats during long, early morning walks or jogs along the beach.

7. Change the pace during your prayer time. Include praise, thanksgiving and singing as well as petition. Spend some of your time reflecting on the Scripture, meditating on it and digesting its meaning.

8. Keep a prayer journal. Here are two variations of this idea. The first is to keep track of what you prayed for and when you prayed for it. Leave a space to jot down the answer when it comes. This will help you to keep alert to God's answer so you can thank Him promptly. The second variation is to write the entire prayer in your journal. Make it a personal letter to the Lord on a daily basis. Just write "Dear Lord" instead of "Dear Diary."

9. Pray with someone else. Though some prayers can only be said in solitude, there will be times when you'll want to join hearts with another person in prayer. If you commit to meet on a regular basis, the accountability can really help build consistency. Such prayer trysts can become powerful, life-changing events.

10. Pray one-sentence prayers. If the thought of laboring over a topic wears you out, pray short, sincere prayers instead. A sentence or two may be all that's needed to exhaust the topic for you for the time being. If so, just move on to the next item without feeling guilty for your brevity.

7 Things to Pray For

In addition to following the suggestions above, here are a few more thoughts that will help. In the front of your prayer diary list three or four promises from the Scripture on prayer. Read them as an encouragement before you start. Start your prayer time with a hymn, focusing your heart and mind on the Lord. When you pray through your prayer list for the day, include the items on your daily schedule. Pray also about the things not on your schedule but still on your heart. Be sure your prayer time includes some of the specific things that God tells us in His Word to pray for. Below are a few examples:

1. Pray for the harvest.

Matthew 9:37-38

³⁷ Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;

³⁸ Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

2. Pray for national and local leaders of government.

1 Timothy 2:1-2

¹ I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

² For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

3. Pray that God will open doors for ministry of the Word.

Colossians 4:3

³ Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

4. Pray for those who have mistreated you. Forgive them.

Matthew 18:35

³⁵ So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

5. Pray that you may do no evil.

2 Corinthians 13:7

⁷ Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates.

6. Pray that your love may abound toward all people.

Philippians 1:9

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

7. Pray that your whole spirit, mind and body be preserved blameless.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

²³ And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

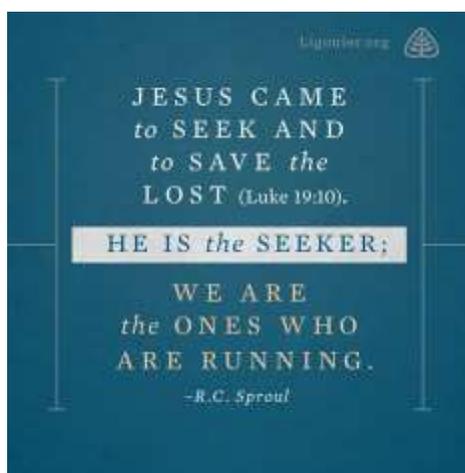
Verse 36 And Simon and they that were with him followed after him.

Luke gives us more in on this in: Luke 4:42

⁴² And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place: and the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them.

Verse 37 And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee.

“All men seek for thee” Please be aware of the False Teaching by the Reformed Theologians!



People do Seek The Lord and with Faith/Belief and True Repentance then God will Save You (Grace!) Strike One oh Reformed Theology!

Luke 19:3 says:

³ **And he sought to see Jesus who he was;** and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.

Verse 38 And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.

Verse 39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

Jesus said we need to Preach The Gospel to those in other towns that haven't heard it! Why?

2 Peter 3:9

⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (Strike two oh Reformed Theology!)

Verse 40 **And there came a leper to him,** beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, **If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.**

Here's another person that **comes** to Jesus. First Jesus encountered a Man with a unclean spirit, now Jesus encounters a man with an unclean body. The faith of the leper was very great. He did not suggest that Jesus intercede with God on his behalf but that he should cleanse him. He did not merely petition Jesus but worshipped him, falling on his face, and kneeling to him. **“If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean”** The Leper knew that Jesus could heal him, but he shows reverence towards The Lord and asks Him!

“And there came a leper to him” I thought people run from God oh Reformed Theologians? Not only did he come to Jesus, he begs Jesus to help him. He kneels down before Jesus! Strike three oh Reformed Theology!

Leprosy, also known as **Hansen's disease (HD)**, is a chronic infection caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium leprae* and *Mycobacterium lepromatosis*. Initially infections are without symptoms and typically remain this way for 5 to as long as 20 years. Symptoms that develop include granulomas of the nerves, respiratory tract, skin, and eyes. This may result in a lack of ability to feel pain and thus loss of parts of extremities due to repeated injuries. Weakness and poor eyesight may also be present.

There are two main types of disease based on the number of bacteria present: paucibacillary and multibacillary. The two types are differentiated by the number of poorly pigmented numb skin patches present, with paucibacillary having five or fewer and multibacillary having more than five. The diagnosis is confirmed by finding acid-fast bacilli in a biopsy of the skin or via

Verse 41 And Jesus, moved with **compassion**, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.



Compassion= A suffering with another; painful sympathy; a sensation of sorrow excited by the distress or misfortunes of another; pity; commiseration. compassion is a mixed passion, compounded of love and sorrow; at least some portion of love generally attends the pain or regret, or is excited by it. A nice example of Compassion is found in:

Luke 15:15-24

¹⁵ And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

¹⁶ And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

¹⁷ And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

¹⁹ And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

²⁰ And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had **compassion**, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

²¹ And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

²² But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

²³ And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Jesus had Compassion; The Prodigal Son's Father had Compassion. How about us?

Verse 42 And as soon as he had spoken, **immediately** the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

Verse 43 And he straitly charged him, and **forthwith** sent him away;

Verse 44 And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

Jesus told the former Leper to report and show himself to The Priests, which is according to The Laws of Leprosy which is found in Leviticus chapter 13-14.

Leviticus 13

1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, saying,

² When a man shall have in the skin of his flesh a rising, a scab, or bright spot, and it be in the skin of his flesh like the plague of leprosy; then he shall be brought unto Aaron the priest, or unto one of his sons the priests:

³ And the priest shall look on the plague in the skin of the flesh: and when the hair in the plague is turned white, and the plague in sight be deeper than the skin of his flesh, it is a plague of leprosy: and the priest shall look on him, and pronounce him unclean.

But sadly, the former Leper disobeyed Jesus:

Verse 45 But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

The former Leper not only disobeyed Jesus, he also disobeyed The Law of Leprosy in Leviticus chapters 13-14!

The cleansed man could then go everywhere, but the Lord who had healed him had to go to the desert and avoid the populated places.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 2

Chapter two finds Jesus back again in Capernaum where he healed the man borne of four (Mark 2:1-12). Events related to the call of Matthew are given (Mark 2:13-17); questions regarding fasting were answered (Mark 2:18-22); and the Pharisees accused Jesus' disciples of breaking the sabbath (Mark 2:23-28). All of this is a continuation of the Galilean ministry.

The Power and Authority of Jesus to forgive and to heal:

Mark 2

Verse 1 And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; **and it was noised that he was in the house.**

“And” Mark has 16 chapters and 13 of them begin with the word “And” showing Mark's brief and continual powerful description of the service of The Lord!

“and it was noised that he was in the house.”

Jesus is in the house! And if you're gonna make some noise, make some noise for Jesus! That's a good kind of noise! People make noise for their Sport Teams, people make noise at their Rock Concerts, people make noise for self... Let's make some noise for Jesus!

Verse 2 And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that **there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.**

“there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door” Remember in Mark 1:28 “And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee” Because of the Teaching and Healing Power of Jesus; Jesus attracted crowds wherever He went.

“and he preached the word unto them” Jesus didn't Preach Philosophy, Politics, Fables, Fairy Tales, the “isms” or Opinions, Jesus Preached The Word! The Word of God! Is there anything else but to Preach about?

Pastors are commanded to Preach “the word”!

2 Timothy 4:2

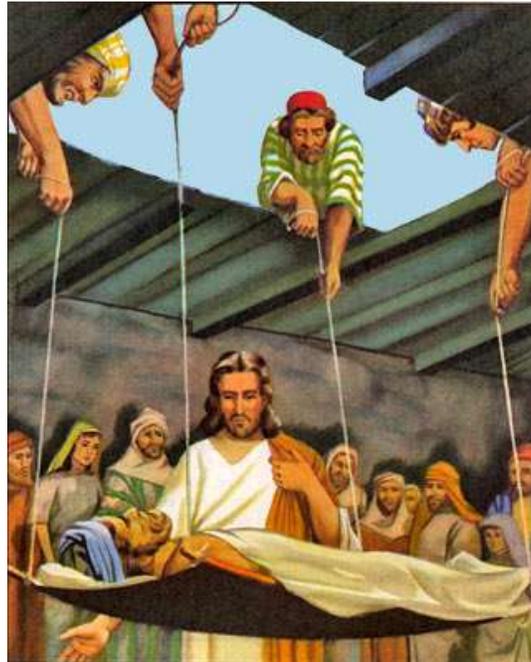
²Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.

Verse 3 And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the **palsy**, which was borne of four.

And when you know that someone is sick, you bring them to The Lord!

Palsy = Complete or partial muscle paralysis of a body part, often accompanied by a loss of feeling and uncontrolled body movements such as shaking.

Verse 4 And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.



Verse 5 When Jesus saw their faith, **he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.**

And the big question here in Israel is why is there a lot of **Sick and Devil Possessed people?**

Answer: The Nation of Israel had turned its back on God.

Remember: God promised The Children of Israel Protection and a Healthy Nation:

Exodus 23:22-25

²² But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries.

²³ For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off.

²⁴ Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images.

²⁵ And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; **and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.**

God also said in:

Deuteronomy 28:15-23

¹⁵ But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:

¹⁶ Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field.

¹⁷ Cursed shall be thy basket and thy store.

¹⁸ Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

¹⁹ Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

²⁰ The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me.

²¹ The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it.

²² The LORD shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish.

²³ And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron.

God's Promise is simple: Love and Serve Him, Listen to Him, don't bring in and serve other gods and if you do that then God promises protection and Health!

The fact is that when Jesus has come; God manifest in the flesh, Israel is both Spiritually and Physically Unhealthy!

Look at Mark 2:5 again: **“he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.”**

There is a connection between Sin and Sickness. This isn't just about OT Israel! Paul writing to a Gentile Church in:

1 Corinthians 11:27-30

²⁷ Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

²⁹ For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

³⁰ **For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.**

Continuing Mark 2 verse 5: When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

Their faith ... I believe it refers to the faith of all five.

Son, thy sins be forgiven thee: We can imagine how the friends on the roof felt. They went to a lot of trouble to see their friend healed of his palsy, and now The Lord only wants to *forgive his sins!* We might imagine them shouting, “No, he’s paralyzed! We wanted him to walk, not to be forgiven!” But The Lord deals with the most important issue here: Sin! Jesus said in:

Matthew 5:30

³⁰ And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

The man with the Palsy’s sins had be forgiven, so if he The Lord didn’t heal him Physically, he could enter Paradise with his Palsy.

Verse 6 But there was certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,

If only Israel’s Religious leaders had been doing their job, then it might not have happened this way!

Look at the comparison: The Scribes are sitting, while the four men are bringing a sick man to Jesus!

Just like in The Church today, we have Laborers bringing sick people to Jesus **and** Church people just sitting and criticizing what was said and done in Church that they didn’t like! This is called a **Critical Spirit!**

Verse 7 Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?

What the Scribes failed to recognize is that God is in the house and He’s forgiving a man’s Sins!

And one thing you don’t want to do is call God a Blasphemer!

Remember only God can Forgives Sins!

Psalm 103:1-4

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Jesus demonstrates His authority to forgive sins and His power to heal disease:

Verse 8 And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts?

Because Jesus is God, He can read the hearts of men.

Here's a Challenging question and a reality check!

Verse 9 Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?

It's easy to forgive a man's Sins because on the outward to a crowd of people it's just words. It's all talk – no action, something that the Scribes and man is good at doing, but here Jesus Forgives the Man with the Palsy of his Sins **and** is now gonna Heal him which the Scribes couldn't do!

Verse 10 But that ye may know that the **Son of man** hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,)

What Jesus is claiming that as **Son of man – God Manifest in the Flesh, He can Forgive Sins!**

1 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Verse 11 I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.

What Jesus is claiming that as **Son of man – God Manifest in the Flesh, He can perform a Miracle and Heal a man!** If Jesus said “Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house” and the man doesn't then that would make Jesus a fraud.

Verse 12 And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.



Three Points:

1. The man is no longer Diseased.
2. He's no longer under the punishment of Sin!

3. There is a World that is both Physically/Health and Spiritually/Sin who need to brought to Jesus! Are we bringing the sick to Jesus!

Question: "Are faith healers for real? Does a faith healer heal with the same power as Jesus?"

Answer: There is no doubt that God has the power to heal anyone at any time. The question is whether He chooses to do so through those who are called "faith healers." These individuals typically convince their audiences that God wants them to be well and that through their faith—and usually a financial offering—God will reward their faith by healing them through the power of Jesus.

By comparing the healing ministry of the Lord Jesus to that of the modern faith healers, we can determine whether their claims have any basis in Scripture. If, as they say, they heal through the same power and in the same way that Jesus healed, we should be able to see marked similarities between them. However, just the opposite is true. Mark 1:29-34 gives us a description of just one day of Jesus' healing ministry. His power to heal—and to do all kinds of miracles—was evidence that He had power over both the physical and spiritual effects of the curse of sin. He healed those afflicted with physical diseases, illnesses, and injuries, even raising the dead, and He cast demons out of those who were possessed by them. Only God can rescue us from the results of the Fall of man into sin—disease and death—and by His miracles, Jesus proved His deity.

There are several distinctives in the way Jesus healed that are not characteristic of the modern faith healers. First, He healed instantly. Peter's mother-in-law (Mark 1:31), the centurion's son (Matthew 8:13), Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:41-42), and the paralytic (Luke 5:24-25) were all healed immediately. They did not have to go home and start to get better, as is the advice from many faith healers. Second, Jesus healed totally. Peter's mother-in-law was fully functional after being healed from an illness so severe she was bedridden, but when Jesus healed her, she rose immediately and prepared a meal for all who were in the house. The blind beggars in Matthew 20:34 were given instant sight. Third, Jesus healed everyone (Matthew 4:24; Luke 4:40). They were not required to be pre-screened by the disciples before coming to Jesus for healing, as is the standard procedure with the healers today. There was no healing line they had to qualify for. Jesus healed all the time in many places, not in a studio with carefully-controlled circumstances.

Fourth, Jesus healed actual organic diseases, not symptoms as the faith healers do. Jesus never healed anyone of a headache or back pain. He healed leprosy, blindness, and paralysis, miracles that were truly verifiable. Finally, Jesus healed the ultimate disease—death. He brought forth Lazarus after four days in the grave. No faith healer can duplicate that. In addition, His healings did not require faith as a precondition. In fact, most of those He healed were unbelievers.

There have always been false healers who prey on the suffering and the desperate in order to pad their bank accounts. Such behavior is the worst kind of blasphemy because many whose money is wasted on false promises reject Christ outright because He does not do what the healer has promised. Why, if faith healers have the power to heal, do they not walk the halls of the hospitals healing everyone and releasing them all? Why do they not go to Africa and cure all the AIDS cases? They do not because they cannot. They do not have the power of healing that Jesus possessed.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 2

Verse 13 And he **went forth again by the sea side**; and all the multitude resorted unto him, and he taught them.

Leaving the house where He had healed the palsied man, Jesus “**went forth again by the sea side,**” and there taught the multitude who followed Him.

Isn't that a nice setting! Sitting at the beach, listening to the waves, feeling a nice Sea Breeze and listening to Jesus teaching!

The Calling of Matthew The Tax Collector:

Verse 14 And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, **Follow me**. And he arose and followed him.



“**And as he passed by**” Many of Jesus' most wonderful deeds were accomplished in the impromptu manner suggested here. The Lord was alert to the eternal potential of every moment and every situation or circumstance. Christ regarded the present moment, the present human being in his presence, and the present circumstance in all of its vast potential for the future

“**he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the receipt of custom**” Matthew's a Government worker; he's not a popular man.

“and said unto him, Follow me.” Jesus doesn’t care what line of work you were doing before you Jesus, Jesus wants to know what you’re gonna do after you’ve met Him!

Understanding how almost everyone hates tax collectors, it is amazing to see how Jesus loves, and calls, Levi. And it was a well-placed love; Levi responded to Jesus’ invitation by leaving his tax collecting business and following Jesus.

“When a Jew entered the customs service he was regarded as an outcast from society: he was disqualified as a judge or a witness in a court session, was excommunicated from the synagogue, and in the eyes of the community his disgrace extended to his family.” – William Lane

This was more than a sacrifice than some of the other disciples made. Peter, James, and John could more easily go back to their fishing business, but it would be hard for Levi to go back to tax collecting. Tax collector jobs were greatly sought after as a sure way to get rich quickly.

There is archaeological evidence that fish taken from the Sea of Galilee were taxed. So Jesus took as His disciple the taxman that may have been taking money from Peter, James, and John and the other fishermen among the disciples. This might have made for some awkward introductions!

Matthew was named Levi before his call by Jesus. We don't know whether Jesus gave him the name Matthew or whether he changed it himself, but it is a shortening of the name Mattathias, which means "the gift of God."

Matthew was uniquely qualified to be a disciple. As a Tax Collector he was an accurate record keeper and keen observer of people. He captured the smallest details. Those traits served him well when he wrote the Gospel of Matthew!

Verse 15 And it came to pass, that, as Jesus sat at meat in his house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Jesus and his disciples: for there were many, and they followed him.

Many of Matthew’s friends were publicans and sinners,

What is a Publican? _____

What are “sinners”? _____

Sinners are all actively _____

Why do you think he invited them to his house for a meal with Jesus?

FRIENDS OFFER GREAT POTENTIAL...

1. Levi (Matthew) provides a wonderful method of personal evangelism.

a. He invited friends and co-workers to his home.

b. He provided opportunity for them to hear Jesus.

2. Cornelius did the same thing, even before he became a Christian.

a. He invited family and friends - Acts 10:24.

b. He provided opportunity for them to hear Peter - Acts 10:33.

-- Inviting family and friends for a nice meal is a great way to share the gospel!

Verse 16 And when the **scribes and Pharisees** saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners?

Who are The Scribes and Pharisees?

A **Scribe** is literally someone who writes. **Scribes** had knowledge of the law and could draft legal documents (contracts for marriage, divorce, loans, inheritance, mortgages, the sale of land, and the like). Every village had at least one scribe.

The **Pharisees** were a religious and political party in Israel in Bible times. Religiously, they accepted the written Word as inspired by God. At the time of Christ's earthly ministry, this would have been what The Old Testament. But they also gave equal authority to oral tradition "the traditions of the fathers." and attempted to defend this position by saying it went all the way back to Moses. Like the scribes, they were also well-known legal experts.

In Verses 15 & 16 Jesus and His Disciples ate with SINNERS and The **Scribes and Pharisees don't like it!**

Remember Separation doesn't mean Isolation! To help those sick with sin, we must be willing to spend time with them!

Verse 17 When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of **the physician**, but they that are sick: I came not to call the **righteous, but sinners** to repentance.

The Lord's mission was to redeem spiritually sick men from sin because Jesus is **the physician!**

Jesus is the perfect doctor to heal us of our sin:

- He is always available.

- He always makes a perfect diagnosis.
- He provides a complete cure.
- He even pays the bill!

Righteous: Just; accordant to the divine law. The righteous in Scripture, denote the servants of God, the saints.

Sinners: It is used in contradistinction to saint, to denote an unregenerate person; one who has not received the pardon of his sins.

And Jesus calls all Sinners to _____.

THE TAX COLLECTOR HOSTS JESUS RECAP...

1. Levi (Matthew) gave Jesus a great feast in his house - Mark 2:15, Luke 5:29
2. There were many tax collectors and sinners present - Mark 2:15
3. The Scribes and Pharisees are surprised-shocked-angered - Mark 2:16
 - a. Luke says they “murmured” - Luke 5:30
 - b. They wondered how Jesus could eat with tax collectors and sinners.

What were some of the reasons The Scribes and Pharisees were surprised-shocked-angered?

4. Jesus’ response - Mark 2:17
 - a. “They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick:”
 - b. “I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance”
- Jesus’ words reveal why Levi (Matthew) was a prospect for discipleship

Controversies about Fasting and the Sabbath, verses 18-20:

Verse 18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast: and they come and say unto him, Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but thy disciples fast not?

The Pharisees were up to their old tricks, trying to cause trouble for Jesus. Here the strategy was designed to open a divide between the disciples of John the Baptist and those of Jesus.

It was the disciples of John and those of the Pharisees, the orthodox party in Judaism, who raised the question as to why the disciples of Jesus did not follow their example in regard to fasting. Both groups evidently thought of refraining from food at certain times as meritorious, or at least advantageous in producing holiness of heart and life.

The Pharisees were well known for fasting twice a week

Luke 18:11-12

¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

¹² I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

Fasting

Biblical fasting is the freewill practice of abstaining from food and/or the pleasantries of life for the purpose of devoting oneself to God and concentrating on spiritual goals, particularly the goal of defeating spiritual enemies and overcoming the lusts of the flesh. “Fasting is nothing else than the abstinence and temperance of the godly, and a watching and chastising of our flesh, taken up for present necessity, whereby we are humbled before God, and withdraw from the flesh those things with which it is cherished, to the end that it may the more willingly and easily obey the Spirit. The fasts wherein the Jews fasted from meat, and not from wickedness, pleased God nothing at all, as we may see in the books of the Prophets. ... All fasts ought to proceed from a free and willing spirit” (The Second Helvetic Confession, 1566, XXII).

Warnings about Fasting.

- (1) Fasting is not for salvation (Luke 18:9-14).
- (2) Fasting must not be for show (Mt. 6:16-18).
- (3) Fasting is not to be a religious ritual (Lk. 18:12).
- (4) Fasting is unacceptable and ineffectual without a right relationship with God (Is. 58:3-9; Zec.7:5-6).
- (5) Biblical fasting is not for physical health. We cannot say whether or not fasting is good for the health, but we do know that the Bible never speaks of fasting in this context.
- (6) Fasting is not to be an ascetic practice (Col. 2:20-23). The ascetic punishes himself in a vain attempt to know God, to find favor with God, or to attain spiritual power. The Christian has all of this freely in Jesus Christ (Col. 2:1-23).
- (7) Fasting does not necessarily guarantee that one’s prayers will be answered (2 Sa. 12).
- (8) Fasting is a personal matter. Fasting is important and useful in Christian life and service, but it is not something by which we are to judge the spiritual condition of others. God does not COMMAND fasting; He COMMENDS it.

The Importance of Fasting.

- (1) The importance of fasting is seen in the number of positive references in the Old and New Testaments (Judges 20:26; 1 Sam. 1:6-7; 7:6; 31:13; 2 Sam. 1:12; 1 Kings 21:27; 2 Ch. 20:3; Ezr. 8:21-23; Neh. 1:4; 9:1-2; Ester 4:16; 9:3; Ps. 35:13-14; 69:10-11; Is. 58:6-8; Je. 36:9; Joel

1:14; 2:12,15; John 3:5; Dan. 9:3; Mt. 4:2; 6:17-18; 9:14-15; 17:21; Mk. 9:29; Lk. 2:37; Ac. 13:2; 14:23; 1 Co. 7:5; 2 Co. 6:5; 11:27).

(2) Fasting is one of the ways whereby a minister of Christ approves himself (2 Co. 6:4-10).

(3) The Lord Jesus Christ made a definite promise about fasting (Mt. 6:17-18).

(4) The Lord Jesus said very plainly that His disciples would fast after His departure (Mt. 9:14-15).

(5) God's choicest servants have practiced fasting throughout the centuries.

(6) Prayer with fasting is the only spiritual practice which is to interfere with the physical aspect of the marital relationship (1 Cor.7:1-5).

(7) Fasting is necessary for breaking down certain demonic strongholds (Mt. 17:18-21).

When Should We Fast?

(1) Fast when sorely tempted (Mt. 4:2).

(2) Fast when wisdom is earnestly desired (Da. 9:3).

(3) Fast when help and protection are needed (Ezra 8:21-23; 2 Ch. 20:3; Je. 36:9).

(4) Fast when victory is desired in seemingly impossible situations (Es.4:10-17; 9:31; Neh. 1:4).

(5) Fast when something is earnestly desired from God and the answer has not come through prayer alone (1 Sam. 1:6-7).

(6) Fast when in mourning for loved ones or the defeat of God's people (2 Sa. 1:12).

(7) Fast when new ministries are launched and when men go forth to proclaim God's Word and battle spiritual enemies (Ac. 13:2-3; 14:23).

(8) Fast when involved in spiritual ministry (2 Cor. 6:5; 11:27).

(9) Fast during times of special repentance, confession, and revival (Joel 1:14-15; 2:12; 2:15; Neh. 9:1-2).

What Is a Biblical Fast? A biblical fast is to focus one's attention wholly toward God, abstaining from lawful pleasantries, to the end of resolving certain extraordinary spiritual needs. It incorporates the following:

(1) Abstinence from food and normal physical pleasures (Dan.10:3; 1 Cor. 7:5).

(2) Prayer (Mt. 17:21).

(3) Confession of sins (Dan. 9:3-6).

(4) Service toward God (Is. 58:6-8).

The Early Church Practiced Fasting:

1. The church at Antioch, as they ministered to the Lord - Acts 13:1-3

2. The churches of Galatia, when they appointed elders - Acts 14:21-23

3. The apostle Paul, as part of his ministry - 2Cor 6:5; 11:27

4. Husbands and wives, by mutual consent - 1Cor 7:5

Jesus answers the disciples of John and the Pharisees:

Verse 19

And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.

As long as Jesus is here on Earth then His Disciples don't have to fast.

****Very Important-Verse 19!**

1. Jesus just said that He is The Bridegroom,
2. Jesus just said that those Jews who follow Him are not The Bride; they are the children (friends) of the bridechamber.

Remember: Israel is already Married to God!

Isaiah 54:5

⁵For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

3. If Jesus already calls Himself The Bridegroom in Mark chapter 2, then in God's eternal infinite plans, Jesus was planning and building His Church!

The Father knew that Israel would reject His Son, The Church wasn't a plan "B", The Church was always part of plan "A" God would reveal His plan via The New Testament!

Verse 20 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days.

When Jesus ascends to Heaven then they should fast.

By using the figure of a wedding (**the bridegroom**), Jesus draws on a powerful picture among the Jews. During the weeklong wedding celebration, rabbis declared that *joy* was more important than observing *religious rituals*. With many weddings to attend, the Pharisees found little need to do any fasting at all, despite the fact that they were always preaching it. Jesus' reply is as though he had said, "Look, you Pharisees, this is a Wedding!"

Jesus' message is bold and clear: "I'm not like the Pharisees or John the Baptist. I am the Messiah, the bridegroom to the people of God. Wherever I am, it is appropriate to have the joy we associate with weddings."

Matthew 6:16-18

¹⁶Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

¹⁷But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face;

¹⁸That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

"Some have exalted religious fasting beyond all Scripture and reason, and others have utterly disregarded it." - **John Wesley**

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 2

Verses 21-22 The pictures of garments and wineskins and their relation to the new work of Jesus.

Verse 21 No man also seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment: else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the rent is made worse.

Verse 22 And no man putteth new wine into old bottles: else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred: but new wine must be put into new bottles.

Practical Truth: If a piece of new, unshrunk cloth is used to mend a hole in an old garment, then just as soon as the garment is washed, the new material will shrink, thus tearing out an even larger hole in the garment. Also if new wine was put into old skins (hardened and no longer elastic), the fermentation process would burst them, resulting in the loss of both the wine and the wineskins.

Practical Biblical Truth: In Mark chapters 1 & 2 you have The Gospel and The New Testament Church being spoken of; this is the new cloth and new wine.

The Gospel and The New Testament Church cannot fix **The Law and Israel**. You can't mix them together.

The Old Testament provides the history of a people; the New Testament focus is on a Person. The Old Testament shows the wrath of God against sin (with glimpses of His grace); the New Testament shows the grace of God toward sinners (with glimpses of His wrath).

In The Old Test Old Testament you have The Law, being a Jew, Circumcision, The Sacrificial System etc...

In The New Testament you have The Gospel, The New Message, The New Birth, The New Life etc...

They are not connected; it's a Division and Fulfillment that Jesus made on His death, burial and resurrection!

Matthew 5:17

¹⁷ Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Hebrews 9:16

¹⁶ For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.

It's time for all New Clothes and Bottles!

Jesus and His disciples are accused of breaking the Sabbath:

Verse 23 And it came to pass, that he went through the corn fields on the sabbath day; and his disciples began, as they went, to pluck the ears of corn.

Verse 24 And the Pharisees said unto him, Behold, why do they on the sabbath day that which is not lawful?



There was nothing wrong with *what they did*, because their gleaning was not considered stealing according to Deuteronomy 23:25. The issue was only *the day* on which they did it. The Rabbis made an elaborate list of “do” and “don’t” items relevant to the Sabbath, and this violated one of the items on this list.

Deuteronomy 23:25

²⁵ When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn.

Jesus never violated God’s command to observe the Sabbath, or approved of His disciples violating God’s command to observe the Sabbath. But He often broke **man’s legalistic additions to that law**, and He sometimes *seems* to have deliberately broken them.

Verse 25 And he said unto them, **Have ye never read** what **David** did, when he had need, and was an hungred, he, and they that were with him?

“Have ye never read...” A frequent question by Jesus! (Matthew 12:3,5, 21:16,42, 22:31, Mark 2:25, 12:10, 26 Luke 6:3) Means: You haven’t been reading your Bibles!

“David” Jesus answers them by mentioning David, who was in exile and is a type of rejection like Jesus will be rejected.

Verse 26 How he went into the house of God in the days of Abiathar the high priest, and did eat the shewbread, which is not lawful to eat but for the priests, and gave also to them which were with him?

Some Notes on The Sabbath:

1. God rested on Seventh Day:

Genesis 1:31-2:3

³¹ And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

² And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

³ And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

2. God Commanded Old Testament Israel to rest on The Seventh Day: The Sabbath!

Exodus 20:8-11

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

⁹ Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

¹⁰ But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

God told Israel: I want you to do what I did: I worked six days and you should work six days,

I rested on the seventh day and you should rest on the seventh day.

3. The Sabbath was a Sign between God and the nation of Israel.

Ezekiel 20:19-20

¹⁹ I am the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them;

²⁰ And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.

Remember: From Genesis 1:1 to Exodus chapter 20, there was not a Commandment from God to observe The Seventh Day-Sabbath.

4. Should the New Testament Christian observe The Sabbath?

Answer: No, we are not Old Testament Israel under The Law. We are The Church!

Colossians 2:16-17

¹⁶ Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:

¹⁷ Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

5. Remember, 9 of The 10 Commandments are mentioned in The New Testament to follow.

Which one isn't mentioned? Sabbath Keeping!

Exodus 20:1-17

1 And God spake all these words, saying,

FIRST COMMANDMENT

2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Matthew 4:10

¹⁰ Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve

SECOND COMMANDMENT

4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

1 John 5:21

²¹ Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

THIRD COMMANDMENT

7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

1 Timothy 6:1

1 Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed.

FOURTH COMMANDMENT

8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Not repeated in the New Testament. **See Colossians 2:16-17**

FIFTH COMMANDMENT

12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Ephesians 6:1-2

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

² Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

SIXTH COMMANDMENT

13 Thou shalt not kill.

SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

15 Thou shalt not steal.

NINTH COMMANDMENT

16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

TENTH COMMANDMENT

17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Romans 13:9

⁹For this, **Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet;** and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Jesus continuing his answer:

Verse 27 And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:

Verse 28 Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.

Jesus declares that He is the **Lord of the Sabbath**. If He, the very **Lord of the Sabbath**, was not offended by His disciple's actions, then these sideline critics should not have been either.

With these words He was announcing His own deity, for again and again the sabbath is called "the sabbath of Jehovah." When Jesus declared Himself to be Lord of that day of rest, He definitely confessed Himself to be the God of Israel, revealed in flesh. If the Pharisees had ears to hear, they would have understood.

Pastor Hank's thoughts on The Sabbath Day Rest:

We are not under The Law, but I believe that God wants us to **rest** one day a week!

Exodus 23:12

¹²Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.

Americans are starved for rest as never before, getting an average of just six-and-a-half hours of sleep a night, a 25-percent drop since the early 1900s. To make up for it, we rev up on Red Bull, Starbucks, No-Doz, sodas—you name it. No wonder people are craving the physical and mental health benefits of a day of rest.

The word "Sabbath" means "to rest from labor".

Healthy-Physical Benefits of a Day of Rest:

Sufficient quantity and quality of rest pays benefits in better memory, healthier immune function, healthier weight, relief for depression, stress management, improved energy, longevity, and curbing inflammation that is linked to heart disease, stroke, diabetes and arthritis. Getting enough sleep matters. Having down time matters.

Ask any physician and they will tell you that rest is essential for physical health. When the body is deprived of sleep, it is unable to rebuild and recharge itself adequately. Your body requires rest.

Ask any athlete and they will tell you that rest is essential for healthy physical training. Rest is needed for physical muscles to repair themselves and prevent injury. This is true whether you run marathons, pitch baseballs, or climb rocks. Your muscles require rest.

Ask many corporate leaders and they will tell you that rest is essential for productivity. Forbes magazine recently wrote, "You can only work so hard and do so much in a day. Everybody needs to rest and recharge." Your productivity requires rest.

Rest will give you a:

Healthier body – We each get one life and one body to live it in. Therefore, we eat healthy, we exercise, and we watch our bad habits. But then we allow our schedules to fill up from morning to evening. Rest is as essential to our physical health as the water we drink and the air we breathe.

Less stress – Stress is basically the perception that the situations we are facing are greater than the resources we have to deal with them – resources such as time, energy, ability, and help from others. We have two choices, either reduce the demands or increase our resources. Concentrated rest confronts stress in both ways. First, it reduces the demands of the situation. We have no demands on us as long as we have the ability to mentally let go of unfinished tasks. Secondly, rest reduces stress by increasing our resources, particularly energy.

Deeper relationships – A day set aside each week for rest allows relationships with people to deepen and be strengthened. When we aren't rushing off to work or soccer practice, we are able to enjoy each other's company and a healthy conversation. And long talks prove to be far more effective in building community than short ones on the ride to the mall.

Opportunity for reflection – Sometimes it is hard to see the forest through the trees. It is even more difficult to see the forest when we are running through the trees. Concentrated rest allows

us to take a step back, to evaluate our lives, to identify our values, and determine if our life is being lived for them.

Balance – Taking one day of your week and dedicating it to rest will force you to have an identity outside of your occupation. It will foster relationships outside of your fellow employees. It will foster activities and hobbies outside our work. It will give you life and identity outside of your Monday-Friday occupation. Rather than defining your life by what you do, you can begin to define it by who you are.

Increased production – Just like resting physical muscles allows them opportunity to rejuvenate which leads to greater physical success, providing our minds with rest provides it opportunity to refocus and rejuvenate. More work is not better work. Smarter work is better work.

Reserve for life's emergencies – Crisis hits everyone. Nobody who is alive is immune from the trials of life. By starting the discipline today of concentrated rest, you will build up reserves for when the unexpected emergencies of life strike... and rest is no longer an option.

Christians can benefit from a Day of Rest, and remember: we are not Sabbath Keepers (OT), we are The LORD'S Day Keepers (NT)!

We celebrate The LORD'S Day-Sunday, not The Sabbath Day-Saturday because:

1. Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the first day of the week (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:2, 9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1).
2. The day of Pentecost, when the Holy Ghost came down in power, was on the first day of the week (Acts 2:1; Leviticus 23:15-16).
3. The early church regularly met on the first day of the week (John 20:19; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2).
4. The first day of every week we remember the resurrection of our Lord as the beginning of a new dispensation in which we are no longer under the law but under grace (Romans 6:14-15; Galatians 4:21; 5:18).

Early Church Father Justin Martyr wrote in his: "First Apology":

To the Emperor Titus Ælius Adrianus Antoninus Pius Augustus Cæsar, and to his son Verissimus the Philosopher, and to Lucius the Philosopher, the natural son of Cæsar, and the adopted son of Pius, a lover of learning, and to the sacred Senate, with the whole People of the Romans, I, Justin, the son of Priscus and grandson of Bacchius, natives of Flavia Neapolis in Palestine, present this address and petition in behalf of those of all nations who are unjustly hated and wantonly abused, myself being one of them.

And we afterwards continually remind each other of these things. And the wealthy among us help the needy; and we always keep together; and for all things wherewith we are supplied, we bless the Maker of all through His Son Jesus Christ, and through the Holy Ghost. **And on the**

day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read, as long as timepermits; then, when the reader has ceased, the president verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things. Then we all rise together and pray, and, as we before said, when our prayer is ended, bread and wine and water are brought, and the president in like manner offers prayers and thanksgivings, according to his ability, and the people assent, saying Amen; and there is a distribution to each, and a participation of that over which thanks have been given, and to those who are absent a portion is sent by the deacons. And they who are well to do, and willing, give what each thinks fit; and what is collected is deposited with the president, who succours the orphans and widows and those who, through sickness or any other cause, are in want, and those who are in bonds and the strangers sojourning among us, and in a word takes care of all who are in need. But Sunday is the day on which we all hold our common assembly, because it is the first day on which God, having wrought a change in the darkness and matter, made the world; and Jesus Christ our Saviour on the same day rose from the dead. For He was crucified on the day before that of Saturn (Saturday); and on the day after that of Saturn, which is the day of the Sun, having appeared to His apostles and disciples, He taught them these things, which we have submitted to you also for your consideration.

The LORD'S Day is the day we Worship God!

Isaiah 56:2, 6-7

²Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

⁶Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant;

⁷Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

The LORD'S Day is a day that we can do Good Works for The Lord!

Jesus healed on The Sabbath. (Mark chapter 3). We can do good works on Sunday!

Matthew 12:12

¹²How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.

Isaiah 58:13-14

¹³If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

¹⁴Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 3

The continuation of Jesus' ministry is detailed in this chapter which recounts the healing of a man on the sabbath in the synagogue (Mark 3:1-6), healings at the seashore with demons confessing him (Mark 3:7-12), appointment of the Twelve (Mark 3:13-19), teachings regarding "blaspheme against the Holy Ghost" (Mark 3:20-30), and the incident of his mother and brethren seeking him (Mark 3:31-35).

The Lord of the Sabbath heals on the Sabbath:

Verse 1 And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand.

Verse 2 And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him.

Matthew 12:10 adds a little more info:

¹⁰ And, behold, **there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him.**

"there was a man which had his hand withered" Which suggests an he wasn't born with a withered hand, but had **Injured it** or developed **Hand Atrophy** which is a condition that causes muscles of the hand to deteriorate and wither away. Also called muscle wasting, hand atrophy leads the muscles to begin to lose their bulk and strength. This in turn may cause a general decrease in the ability of the hand to move.

When the hand is immobile for an extended period of time, the muscles begin to lose power and size. These symptoms are indicative of hand atrophy. The condition is common when a fracture of the hand or wrist requires casting. Joint problems, such as arthritis, in which normal movements become painful can also bring about hand atrophy.



“And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him” The Pharisees were watching and waiting and trying to “set up Jesus” so that they can accuse Him of Healing on The Sabbath!

Verse 3 And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth.

Verse 4 And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.

Jesus accepted the challenge of his enemies. He would indeed heal the man on the Sabbath Day; but first, he would contrast his own act of saving mercy with their act, also performed on the Sabbath Day of plotting to kill the Saviour of the world in verse 6.

Jesus poses a question to The Pharisees “But they held their peace”. The Pharisees had a lot to say behind Jesus's back, The Pharisees had a lot to say among themselves, The Pharisees had a lot to say within their own Hearts, but they didn't have much to say to Jesus directly. **As we say here in New York, “If you got something to say, say it to my face.”**



In His question to the religious leaders, Jesus emphasizes the truth about the Sabbath: there is never a wrong day to do something truly good!

In fact, let's go back to Matthew 12:11-13 (same story):

¹¹ And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out?

¹² How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.

¹³ Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.

Remember, Jesus is speaking to The Pharisees, Jesus knows their Hearts. And what Jesus is saying is that you'll pull an **animal** out of a pit on The Sabbath, but you won't help a **Man** on The Sabbath! Just like modern society, they care more about animals than people!

And what Jesus is also doing, is that He is Stripping The Pharisees of their power and exposing them and their man-made additions to The Sabbath!

Verse 5 And when **he had looked round about on them with anger**, being grieved for the **hardness** of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

“he had looked round about on them with anger” This is one of the few places where Jesus is described as having **anger**, and He is angry at the **hardness** of men's hearts.

Ephesians 4:26

²⁶ Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

It is not a Sin to be angry; it's a Sin to be angry for the wrong reasons. It a Sin for the Sun go down before you resolve your anger.

“I never work better than when I am inspired by anger; for when I am angry, I can write, pray, and preach well, for then my whole temperament is quickened, my understanding sharpened, and all mundane vexations and temptations depart.” – **Martin Luther**

Jesus Healed on The Sabbath! The Seven Miracles that Jesus performed on the Sabbath:

The number "Seven" denotes perfection and completeness.

1. Jesus Heals a Lame Man by the Pool of Bethesda. John 5:1-18.

John 5:10

¹⁰ The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the **sabbath day**: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed.

2. Jesus casts out unclean spirits from a man in Capernaum. Mark 1:21-28.

Mark 1:21

²¹ And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the **sabbath day** he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

²³ And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

²⁵ And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

3. Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-law. Mark 1:29-31.

4. Jesus Heals a Man with a Withered Hand. Mark 3:1-6.

5. Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind. John 9:1-16.

6. Jesus Heals a Woman from her infirmity. Luke 13:10-17

7. Jesus Heals a Man with Dropsy. Luke 14:1-6

Verse 6 And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with **the Herodians** against him, **how they might destroy him**.

The Herodians were a sect of the Jews who favored the kingship of Herod. Normally, they were bitter enemies of the Pharisees; but these old foes made common cause against the Saviour.

“how they might destroy him” This does not mean that they decided to kill him, that was long ago decided (John 5:18), but that they plotted on the mechanics of his murder, **just how they were going to bring it about**.

John 5:18

¹⁸ Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.



“And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him”

Multitudes come to Jesus:

Verse 7 But Jesus withdrew himself with his disciples to the sea: and a great multitude from Galilee followed him, and from Judaea,

Verse 8 And from Jerusalem, and from Idumaea, and from beyond Jordan; and they about Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude, **when they had heard what great things he did, came unto him.**



Rather than continue his teachings in the synagogues, Jesus took his message to the seashore where he continued under the open sky to deliver the message of God to humanity. The place names mentioned here as sending a great multitude to Jesus covered the entire extent of ancient Israel. Tyre and Sidon were in the northwest, Jerusalem a hundred miles south, Idumaea extended from the far south all the way to Arabia, and "beyond the Jordan" referred to the east.

The crowds came to Jesus from distant places. yet it seems that this crowd was attracted to Jesus more because of His miraculous works “**when they had heard what great things he did, came unto him**” than because of His message.

It’s good for people to be attracted to Jesus. But if their focus is on *what He can do for them* instead of **Who He is**, they will not follow Him for long.

Verse 9 And he spake to his disciples, that a small ship should wait on him because of the multitude, lest they should **throng** him.



Throng: to crowd upon: a celebrity *thronged* by fans

The pressure of so vast a multitude, many of whom were intent on touching Jesus, presented a physical danger, as well as unpleasant difficulty; and therefore Jesus requested and received from his disciples a boat which he could enter, and from offshore, continue his preaching to the multitude.

Verse 10 For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues.

We find in The Bible that Jesus did not require faith for everyone **He Healed**. Faith is not demanded as a precondition for one to receive a miracle. When faith was required it was in Jesus, not necessarily that one believes they could be healed. The Faith Movement says faith is a condition for our healing and those who are not healed, failed because they did not have the required amount of faith for God to react.

Healings were done in numerous ways. By the person's faith, by intermediary actions or prayers by another, and by God Himself with no faith from the person present.

Matthew 8:5-10 It was the faith of the centurion that healed his own servant. If we apply this today those who have enough faith for their own healing can apply it to everyone else to be healed.

Mark 5:35-43 The daughter of Jairus was healed from the father's faith.

Mark 2:5 Jesus healed the man with palsy not because of his faith, but of the four men who carried him.

Luke 17:11-19 Jesus healed all 10 but only one obeyed showing that he was the only one to possess true saving faith.

John 11 Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead certainly it wasn't Lazarus' faith he was dead, neither did anyone else believe it could occur then. It was done so they could believe. (also Luke 8:54).

Luke 8:26-39 The demoniac of Gadarene was healed without asking before he was capable of expressing his faith.

Luke 22:50-51 John 18:10 When Peter cut off the ear of Malchus Jesus healed him without any faith present.

Verse 11 And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, **Thou art the Son of God.**

Verse 12 **And he straightly charged them that they should not make him known.**

“Thou art the Son of God” - “And he straightly charged them that they should not make him known” In this place it is equivalent to the Messiah, who was, among the Jews, called the Son of God. Hence, they were charged not to make him known, because he was not desirous that it should be spread abroad that he claimed to be the Messiah. He had not yet done what he wished in order to establish his claims to the Messiahship. He was poor and not honored, and the claim would be treated as that of an impostor.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 3

Jesus Calls and Ordains The Twelve Apostles:

We have already seen in Mark the call of Simon and Andrew, James, John and Matthew. But there was a larger group of dedicated followers and now Jesus chooses the twelve.

First, let's look at Luke's parallel passage:

Luke 6:12-13

¹² And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, **and continued all night in prayer to God.**

¹³ **And when it was day,** he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;

Luke adds the significant detail that **Jesus prayed all night** before appointing the Twelve!

Mark 3:

Verse 13 And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him.

Verse 14 And he ordained twelve, **that they should be with him,** and that **he might send them forth to preach,**

Jesus chose 12, why? **“that they should be with him”** and that they would be Disciples and Apostles.

Definitions:

A **Disciple** was a student, but not in a classroom and lecture sense. A disciple learned by being with a hearing from his master. A disciple was an *apprentice*, and learned from the master first hand. There is an element of personal attachment in ‘disciple’ that is lacking in ‘student’.

Apostle means “one who is sent out.” **“he might send them forth to preach” (v. 14)**

At times **Disciples and Apostles** were used interchangeably in The Bible.

Verse 15 And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:

Mark again stresses the job of Jesus destroying the works of the devil. The demonic creation, under satanic domination, knew who Christ was, and now Jesus gives this power to His Disciples!

Verse 16 And Simon he surnamed Peter;

¹⁷ And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder:

¹⁸ And Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Canaanite,

¹⁹ And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him: and they went into an house.

The Twelve Disciples/Apostles are listed in Matthew 10:2-4, Mark 3:16-19, Luke 6:12-16 and Eleven Listed in _____ 1:13?



Matthew	Mark	Luke	_____?
1. Simon/Peter	1. Simon/Peter	1. Simon/Peter	1. Peter
2. Andrew	2. Andrew	2. Andrew	2. Andrew
3. James	3. James	3. James	3. James
4. John	4. John	4. John	4. John
5. Philip	5. Philip	5. Philip	5. Philip
6. Bartholomew	6. Bartholomew	6. Bartholomew	6. Bartholomew
7. Matthew	7. Matthew	7. Matthew	7. Matthew
8. Thomas	8. Thomas	8. Thomas	8. Thomas
9. James the son of Alphaeus	9. James the son of Alphaeus	9. James the son of Alphaeus	9. James the son of Alphaeus
10. Lebbaeus, who surname was Thaddaeus	10. Thaddaeus	10. Judas the brother of James	10. Judas the brother of James
11. Simon the Canaanite	11. Simon the Canaanite	11. Simon called Zelotes	11. Simon Zelotes
12. Judas Iscariot	12. Judas Iscariot	12. Judas Iscariot	

Some Notes on The Twelve Apostles:

* **Thaddaeus** was also known as "Judas the brother of James;" **Thaddeus** (or Lebbaeus as in Matthew 10:3). He is the Judas of John 14:22, both words having the same meaning = beloved child. Aramaic.

* Mark gives a "note for the Gentiles" by translating **Boanerges** - which means **Sons of Thunder**, perhaps a reference to the fiery disposition of **James and John** as they display in Luke 9:54.

Luke 9:54

⁵⁴ And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

* **Simon the Canaanite**: **Canaanite** has nothing to do with geography. It is the Hebrew word for "zealous," identifying Simon as a member of the radical Zealot party.

There are many interesting connections with this group. There are brothers: **James** and **John**, **Peter** and **Andrew**; business associates: **Peter**, **James**, and **John**, were all fishermen; opposing political viewpoints: **Matthew** the Roman-collaborating tax collector, and **Simon**, the Roman-hating zealot. Matthew had taken service with the hated Roman government; Simon had taken up arms against it. To Simon, Matthew was an apostate and a renegade and a traitor. And yet Matthew the publican and Simon the Zealot are side by side as The Lord's Apostles. And one who would betray Jesus (**Judas Iscariot**).

Two of the disciples are named Simon.

Two are named James.

Two are named Judas.

In case you're not keeping count, that's six double-named apostles. That means half of the apostles had the same name as another apostle.

But it gets even more fun! More than half of the Apostles go by more than one name.

Thomas goes by Didymus.

James and John are the "sons of thunder."

One of the Simons goes by Peter, Who also goes by Cephas.

It seems that the names of the twelve disciples are usually arranged in pairs. "Since Jesus sent His Apostles out two by two, this was a logical way to list them." (Warren Wiersbe)

- Peter and Andrew.
- James and John.

- Philip and Bartholomew (also called Nathanael in John 1:45).
- Thomas (his name means “twin”) and Matthew (Levi).
- James, son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus (also called Judas, son of James in John 14:22).
- Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot.

The Gospels record the constant failings, struggles, and doubts of these twelve men who followed Jesus Christ. After witnessing Jesus' resurrection and ascension into heaven, the Holy Spirit transformed the disciples/apostles into powerful men of God who turned the world upside down (Acts 17:6). What was the change? The twelve apostles/disciples had “been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13).

Acts 17:6

⁶ And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

We have here the Lord Jesus calling his Apostles. Their number twelve, perhaps in allusion to the twelve tribes of Israel. The Church is represented by twelve stars in Revelation 12:1. And the wall of New Jerusalem had twelve foundations where The Twelve Apostles are remembered, **Revelation 21:14**

Revelation 21:14

¹⁴ And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Marks of the Twelve Apostles:

- (1) They were chosen personally by Christ (Acts 22:14; Mark 3: 16-19, Luke 6:13-16; Galatians 1:1).
- (2) They had seen the resurrected Christ (Acts 22:14; 1:22; 1 Cor. 9:1; 15:7-9).
- (3) They received their message by direct revelation from God rather than being taught by men (Acts 22:14; Galatians 1:11-12).
- (4) They could impart spiritual power and gifts to others (Acts 8:17-19; 2 Timothy 1:6).
- (5) They had special signs to authenticate their message (2 Cor. 12:12; Acts 2:43; 4:33; 5:12).
- (6) They had the same authority as O.T. prophets (2 Peter 3:2).
- (7) They wrote Scripture (2 Peter 3:15,16).

Some Concluding Thoughts:

Remember, Jesus Chose, Called and Appointed/Ordained.

Jesus called to Him those He wanted. We see that it is the Lord Himself who did the choosing, he does not plead for volunteers, he does not take just anyone, he takes those whom he has been given from the Father.

John 6:37

³⁷All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

One area that the **Church** of today consistently gets wrong is the idea of **Volunteerism** instead of the **Biblical** idea of **Calling**. We ask for volunteers, we plead for people to help in various capacities, we recruit people, we hire people to do jobs that could be done by members; but we have lost the doctrine of **Calling** by God. We have very subtly forsaken this doctrine by adopting a worldly view that brings a lot of **Corporate America into the Church**. We are not a volunteer organization, the church is the community of the called, the chosen.

Are you serving because you volunteered, because there was a need in the church that nobody else would do? Or are you serving for the joy of pleasing the Lord who **called you** to the task you are serving at?

Discipleship Is Separation and Obedience.

The disciples were called up to a mountain. There is a very real sense of being called out of the world to Christ. Remember when Jesus called Peter and Andrew, James and John, how they left their boats and nets immediately when Jesus called. The one who would answer the call of Christ must be willing to leave behind his own ambitions, worldly things, and sins, and be **Separated** unto Christ.

The word for holy means separate from, distinct set aside for a higher purpose. We are called to be disciples and to **separate ourselves from the love of this world**.

There are two dangers in regards to separation for disciples today. One is that we separate from the world so much that we become too heavenly minded for any earthly good. Here we neglect our mission to carry the gospel to the world. Here we have retreated from the world so much that we have no common ground with the lost people around us and our message is so foreign that we cannot effectively communicate. The other danger of separation is that we are not separated from the world much at all; we are not just in the world- **the world is in us**. This is the more common problem today. Instead of being on the mountain with Jesus (note the similarity with God calling Moses up the mountain) we are down in the camp falling into the sins of the world.

The disciples answered the call of Jesus to go up the mountain to be with him.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Teachings regarding "blaspheme against the Holy Ghost" (Mark 3:20-30)

Chapter 3

An accusation from His own friends & family:

Verse 20 And the multitude cometh together again, **so that they could not so much as eat bread.**

Remember if you're busy serving God, you're not gonna have a lot of time to sit down and enjoy a meal!

Verse 21 And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, **He is beside himself.**

a. **So that they could not so much as eat bread:** The idea is that the huge crowds so pressed upon Jesus and the disciples that they did not have the time or the space to eat.

b. **His friends:** This refers to Jesus' Family, Neighbors and Friends. Since Jesus grew up in Galilee and practiced His ministry there, there were many that knew Him before this time of wide popularity.

Why would some from His own people think that Jesus was **beside himself**?

- He left a prosperous business to become an itinerant preacher.
- The religious and political leaders plotted to murder Him, but He did not back down (Mark 3:6). They were afraid for Jesus' sake.
- Huge crowds began to follow Jesus, and they knew how such fame and attention and celebrity can go to someone's head (Mark 3:7-8).
- He picked such an unlikely group of disciples that His judgment could fairly be questioned (Mark 3:13-19).
- The pressures of this incredible ministry made Him miss regular mealtimes (they could not so much as eat bread).
- His Friends were concerned about Jesus's wellbeing!

For the first three chapters in Mark, Jesus is healing people, forgiving people of their sins, casting out devils from people and performing miracles and "**His Friends**" think He's crazy?!

Verse 22 And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath **Beelzebub**, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils.

The Scribes attributed this working of Jesus and The Holy Spirit to Satan (**Beelzebub**).

²³ And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, How can **Satan** cast out Satan?

²⁴ And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

²⁵ And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

²⁶ And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end.

What Jesus is basically saying here in verses 23-26 is: If you're against the devil and I'm the devil and as the devil I'm wrecking the works of the devil, *then* you should be happy!

Jesus said that Satan will not drive demons out of people. Demons are under Satan's authority and indwell them in order to control areas of their lives. If Satan drove them out he would be opposing himself and his kingdom (his rule over people's lives) would be weakened.

Verse 27 No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

In this Parable Satan is the strong man, and since the fall of Adam & Eve nobody can defeat the strong man except Jesus!

²⁸ Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme:

²⁹ But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation.

³⁰ Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.

Let's explain: "the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost"

Let's be clear: the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost is not taking the Lord's name in vain. It is not getting mad at God and telling Him you wish things were different. It is not pledging allegiance to Satan.

Verse 30 answers the question: What is Blaspheme against The Holy Ghost? Answer: **"Because they said, He (that's Jesus) hath an unclean spirit"**.

The Pharisees declared that the power Jesus used to cast out the demon must have come from Satan. Jesus explained that any sin or blasphemy, even against He, Himself, could be forgiven. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, however, can't be forgiven. The Pharisees had attributed the work of the Holy Ghost to Satan. They claimed that Jesus was demon-possessed, not Spirit-

filled. They intentionally rejected the prophecies of the Old Testament and attributed the Spirit's work to Satan.

John 15:26 says:

²⁶ But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

The Holy Spirit brings conviction to the heart of every person who is without Christ. He calls EVERY sinner to come to Jesus. But, if that sinner turns a deaf ear to the call of the Spirit and hardens his heart against the will of God, that sinner will continue on his or her way to hell. There is no "Plan B." If you reject His (The Holy Ghost's) call, you have rejected his grace and the **CONSEQUENCE is eternal damnation.**

The ONLY unforgivable sin is saying "no" to the call of the Holy Spirit for the last time. Please do not ignore him! Accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour!

In a nutshell: The only unpardonable sin that will send you to eternal hell is rejecting Jesus Christ! When you reject Jesus Christ you are rejecting the only one that can save you!

Peter testifies of Jesus in:

Acts 10:38

38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Side Teaching Note: Titles and Names of the Devil (The Strong Man).

Abaddon.

Revelation 9:11 And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is **Abaddon**, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

Accuser of our brethren.

Revelation 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the **accuser of our brethren** is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

Adversary.

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your **adversary the devil**, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Angel of the bottomless pit.

Revelation 9:11 And they had a king over them, which is **the angel of the bottomless pit**, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

Apollyon.

Revelation 9:11 And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

Beelzebub. Also Mark 3:22

Matthew 12:24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.

Belial.

2 Corinthians 6:15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

Crooked serpent.

Isaiah 27:1 In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

Dragon.

Isaiah 27:1 In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

Revelation 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Enemy.

Matthew 13:39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

Evil spirit.

1 Samuel 16:14 But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.

Father of lies.

John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Great red dragon.

Revelation 12:3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.

Leviathan.

Isaiah 27:1 In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish **leviathan** the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

Liar.

John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: **for he is a liar**, and the father of it.

Lying spirit.

1 Kings 22:22 And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be **a lying spirit** in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so.

Murderer.

John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. **He was a murderer from the beginning**, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Old serpent.

Revelation 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, **that old serpent**, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Revelation 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, **that old serpent**, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Piercing serpent.

Isaiah 27:1 In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan **the piercing serpent**, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

Power of darkness.

Colossians 1:13 Who hath delivered us from **the power of darkness**, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

Prince of this world.

John 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for **the prince of this world** cometh, and hath nothing in me.

Prince of the devils.

Matthew 12:24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellowdoth not cast out devils, but by **Beelzebub the prince of the devils**.

Prince of the power of the air.

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to **the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Ruler of the darkness of this world.

Ephesians 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against **the rulers of the darkness of this world**, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Satan.

1 Chronicles 21:1 And **Satan** stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

Job 1:6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and **Satan** came also among them.

Serpent.

Genesis 3:4 And the **serpent** said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

2 Corinthians 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as **the serpent** beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Spirit that worketh in the children of disobedience.

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, **the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience**:

Tempter.

Matthew 4:3 And when the **tempter** came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

1 Thessalonians 3:5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the **tempter** have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

The god of this world.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom **the god of this world** hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Unclean spirit.

Matthew 12:43 When **the unclean spirit** is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none.

Wicked-one.

Matthew 13:19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh **the wicked one**, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

Matthew 13:38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of **the wicked one**;

Verses 31-35, Jesus describes His true family relationships

31 There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him.

Show this verse to a Roman Catholic. If Jesus's Brothers and His Mother Mary show up. The I guess that Mary isn't a Perpetual Virgin anymore!

32 And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee.

33 And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren?

34 And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren!

35 For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

A Great Truth is taught here by Jesus: That Spiritual Relationships trumps Physical Relationships.

I don't care who your Mother is, do you know who God is? If you're serving God then we're Brothers and Sisters in The Lord!

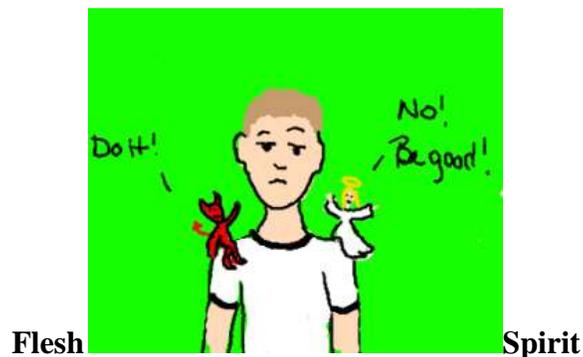
1 John 3:1-2

1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

John 3:6

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.



Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 4 Outline:

Jesus takes His message to the seashore and the open sky and delivered the parable of the Sower (Mark 4:1-9), He explains it (Mark 4:10-20), and gives a number of sentence sermons (Mark 4:21-25). He then gives the parable of the seed growing secretly (Mark 4:26-29), and that of the mustard seed (Mark 4:30-34). The chapter is concluded by the narrative of his calming the great storm (Mark 4:35-41).

Mark 4

Verse 1 And he began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land.



As the Lord Jesus sat in the fisherman's boat His audience would be before Him, conveniently seated or standing, as in a natural Amphitheater. This natural setting enabled all to hear the voice of the teacher whose message and personality had attracted them to Him.

Verse 2 And he taught them many things by **parables**, and said unto them in his doctrine,

Jesus chose the Parabolic method or teaching simply to make people listen. He was not now dealing with an assembly of people in a Synagogue who were more or less bound to remain there until the end of the service. He was dealing with a crowd in the open air who were quite free to walk away at any time. Therefore, the first essential was to interest them. Unless their interest was aroused they would simply drift away. The surest way to awaken men's interest is to tell them stories and Jesus knew that. These parables were illustrations drawn from things with which the hearers were perfectly familiar with as we will see.

“And he taught them many things by **parables**”

What is a Parable?

A Parable is an Earthy story with a Heavenly Message.

A Parable is different than a Fable. Fables are knowingly untrue, unrealistic fantasy stories that illustrate previously discovered human wisdom. What’s an example of a Fable?

Aesop's fable: The Tortoise and the Hare. What’s the previously discovered human wisdom that’s illustrated? Answer: That is if you sleep and goof off during a Race like the Rabbit did, you’ll lose the Race to a slow but consistent Tortoise.

A Parable is different than a Myth. Myths are fantasy/untrue stories that are accepted as reality/truth themselves. A Myth is a traditional story, typically revolving around the activities of gods and heroes, which purports to explain a natural phenomenon or cultural practice.

What’s an example of a Myth? The Greek **myth** of Prometheus, a human being who stole the secret of fire from the gods and was punished with everlasting torment, purported to explain the origin of mankind's use of fire.

Parables are true or realistic stories that illustrate a deep spiritual truth not previously understood by man.

The design of speaking in **Parables** was the following:

(1.) To convey truth in a more interesting manner to the mind; adding to the truth conveyed the beauty of a lovely image or narrative.

(2.) To teach spiritual truth so as to arrest the attention of ignorant people, making an appeal to them through the *senses*.

(3.) To convey some offensive truth, some pointed personal rebuke, in such a way as to bring it *home* to the conscience. Of this kind was the parable which Nathan delivered to David, 2 Samuel 12:1-7 and many of our Saviour's parables addressed to the Jews.

(4.) To *conceal* from one part of his audience truths which he intended others should understand. Thus Christ often, by this means, delivered truths to his disciples in the presence of the Jews, which he well knew the Jews would not understand; truths pertaining to them particularly, and which he was under no obligations to explain to the Jews.

Matthew 13:10-11

¹⁰ And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?

¹¹ He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.

The reason for Jesus' method of teaching by Parables is because:

(1) He did so in order to fulfill prophecy.

Psalm 78:1-2

1 Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:

(2) He did so to confound the spies of the Pharisees.

(3) He thus challenged his disciples to greater spiritual discernment.

(4) The Hebrew people were familiar with that method.

(5) It made his teachings easier to remember.

(6) The parables were interesting in the highest degree.

(7) They contained the dynamic teaching of Jesus in language which was unsuitable to the court-charges the Pharisees were anxious to make against him. In short, he, by this method, taught those who wished to know the truth and confounded those who sought to oppose him. In the literature of all the world, there is nothing to compare with the parables of Jesus.

PARABLES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:

(1) Balaam's parables (Num. 23:7, 18; 24:3, 15, 20, 21, 23).

(2) Jotham's (Judges 9:7).

(2) Nathan's (2 Sam. 12:1-7).

(3) The woman of Tekoa's (2 Sam. 14:5).

(4) The unnamed prophet's (1 Kings 20:25-43).

(5) Joash's (2 Kings 9; 2 Ch. 25:18).

(6) Job's (Job 27:1; 29:1).

(7) The Psalmist's (Psalm 49:4-20; Psalm 78).

(8) The prophets (Isaiah 5:1; Jer. 13:1; Ezek. 17:2; 19:2-3; 24:3; Micah 2:4; Habakkuk 2:6).

Old Testament Parables. In these, the prophets compare many things:

Numbers 23:18-24, Israel compared to a unicorn and lion.

Psalm 49:4, 12, 20, man compared to beasts that perish.

Ezekiel 17:2, 12, the king of Babylon to an eagle.

Ezekiel 24:3, Jerusalem to a pot of boiling water.

Ezekiel 20:45-49. God's judgment of Israel to a fire.

THE PARABLES OF JESUS:

The Seed (Mark 4:26-29).

The Household Watching (Mark 13:34-36).
 Candle under the Bushel (Mat. 5; Mark 4; Luke 8).
 House Built on Rock (Mat. 7:24; Luke 6:48).
 The New Cloth on old Garment (Mat. 9; Mark 2; Luke 5).
 New Wine in Old Bottles (Mat. 9; Mark 2; Luke. 5).
 The Sower (Mat. 13:1-23; Mark. 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15).
 The Tares (Mat. 13:24-30, 36-43).
 The Mustard Seed (Mat. 13:31, 32; Mark. 4:30-32; Luke 13:18-19).
 The Leaven (Mat. 13:33; Luke. 13:22-21).
 The Hidden Treasure (Mat. 13:44).
 The Costly Pearl (Mat. 13:45, 46).
 The Dragnet (Mat. 13:47-50).
 The Lost Sheep (Mat. 18:12; Luke 15:1-7).
 The Wicked Servant (Mat. 18:21-35).
 The Laborers in the Vineyard (Mat. 20:1-16).
 The Two Sons (Mat. 21:28-32).
 The Vineyard and Husbandmen (Mat. 21:33-46; Mark 12:1-2; Luke 20:9-19).
 The Wedding Feast (Mat. 22:1-14).
 The Ten Virgins (Mat. 25:1-13).
 The Talents (Mat. 25:14-30).
 The Sheep and Goats (Mat. 25:31-46).
 The Two Debtors (Luke 7:36-50).
 The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).
 The Friend at Midnight (Luke 11:5-8).
 The Rich Fool (Luke 12:16-21).
 The Servants Watching (Luke 12:35-40).
 The Steward on Trial (Luke 12:42-48).
 The Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13:6-9).
 The Wedding Guest (Luke 14:7-11).
 The Great Supper (Luke 14:15-24).
 Counting the Cost (Luke 14:25-35).
 The Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10).
 The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32).
 The Unjust Steward (Luke 16:1-13).
 The Unprofitable Servant (Luke 17:1-10).
 The Unjust Judge (Luke 18:1-8).
 The Pharisee and the Publican (Luke 18:9-14).
 The Pounds (Luke 19:11-27).
 The shepherd (John 10).
 The vine and the branches (John 15).

The Parable of The Sower:

Verse 3 Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow:

Hearken ... and Behold ... are The Lord's own double exclamation points to its very great importance.

In this parable, Jesus described something they were all familiar with - a farmer casting seed on the ground, and the seed falling on different types of soil. A proper understanding of this parable depends upon knowledge of the **method** of sowing grain which was used in Jesus' times, and which may still be observed in the world today.

Sowing: The Sower put a bag full of grain on his shoulder, having first prepared his field; and then he strode forth scattering the seeds with his hands, fanning them out in an arc before him as he walked. Naturally, such a sowing is a jubilee for the birds. Also, any seeds falling upon a pathway, or into thorn-infested ground, were unproductive. However, the farmer mentioned by Jesus made a good crop. After sowing the seed, the farmer would then plow the field again so that the soil would cover the seed (otherwise the birds would eat the seed). Sometimes the farmer would do this by dragging branches or a log behind a team of oxen.



Most people in Israel were Farmers or who had knew about Farming. God brought The Children of Israel to a good land!

Deuteronomy 8:7-9

⁷For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills;

⁸A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey;

⁹A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.

Side Teaching Moment - Main Types of Societies:

1. Hunter-Gather
2. Agrarian
3. Industrial
4. Post-Industrial

America was a _____ and is now a _____.

Affects on the Family?

Jesus' parable of the Sower is aimed at the *hearers of His word*. The seed that he sows is the seed of the good news about Jesus. The farmer sows the seed in many different places, just as Christians tell God's good news in many different places. What happens to the seed is different in different places. It is the same with the good news about Jesus. It has a good result in the lives of some people, and it has a poor result in other lives. There are different ways of accepting God's word and they produce different kinds of fruit accordingly.

Verse 4 And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up.

You hear Jesus, but Satan plucks it right out of your ears, like a bird who eats seeds sown on a road. Some hearts are like soil on a path. They are so hard that the word of God can't even get into it deep enough to grow before the Devil comes along and snatches it away.

Verse 5 And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth:

Verse 6 But when the sun was up, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away.

You hear Jesus and respond with initial enthusiasm, but your desire to follow fades when the going gets rough. Jesus reminds us of plants that grow in rocks—they don't have roots, so they die under the blaring sun.

“The soil in this instance may have looked fair, but it had not much depth. Underneath there was hard ground, speaking of lack of repentance before God. The seed without root soon withered away. Where there is no divine conviction there will be no lasting effects following a temporary stirring of the emotions.” - H. A. Ironside

Verse 7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.

You hear Jesus, but are simply too concerned with your resume, making money, and your overall sex appeal to care about Jesus. These things choke you, like thorns that smother little plants. These people know the Word of God, but when they're tested, they collapse. They have no root. They're not planted deep enough in the soil, so God's Word hasn't truly become their foundation.

It's a superficial faith that springs up when times are good. But when the heat comes, just like the sun on a hot day, the small seedling that shot up on the rock will wither and die for lack of soil and water.

Verse 8 And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred.

You hear Jesus and...grow. Ta-da! The good ground pictures hearts prepared by God to receive the seed of the Gospel!

The following analogies are in the Parable:

The seed is the word of God.

The way side soil is the hardened hearer.

The shallow soil is the unstable hearer.

The thorny ground is the hearer who allows the cares, riches and pleasures of life to choke out the word.

The good ground is the faithful hearer who bears fruit.

The birds of the air are the evil one.

The sun's heat is persecution and tribulation.

The thorns are the cares, riches, and pleasures of life.

The variable yields are the variable effectiveness of Christians in bearing fruit.

The sudden sprouting of seed on the rocky ground stands for the ease with which the unstable are converted.

The Sower stands for God.

There are interlocking triple portions in the Parable:

1. There are three types of unproductive soil;
2. The thorns are the cares, riches and pleasures;
3. The productive soil has three gradations of 30-fold, 60-fold, and 100-fold.

Verse 9 And he said unto them, **He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.**

“He that hath ears to hear, let him hear” With these solemn words, the Lord challenged our attention. It is easy to listen only with the outward ear and so fail to get the message into the heart.

So far in The Gospel of Mark Jesus sowed the word of God everywhere: in the Synagogues, in the surrounding villages and towns, in the deserts, and on the sea. He chose his apostles so that they too would sow the word of God. As Borned Again Christians/The Church, it's our job to Sow the Seed!

Every Christian is to be a farmer. Every believer is to sow seed. We are told in Luke 8:11 that the seed is the _____ of _____. We are to take this Word and spread it and scatter it and plant it in God's field. The field is the _____ (Matthew 13:38).

What are some of the ways we can sow the seed of God's Word?

- Sowing/Handing out Tracts
- Sowing/Handing out Sermon CD's

Next Week: Jesus explains The Parable to His Disciples, verses 10-20

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 4

Jesus explains The Parable to His Disciples, verses 10-20

Jesus calls this “the parable of the sower”

Matthew 13:18

¹⁸ Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.

Verse 10 And when he was alone, they that were about him with the twelve **asked of him the parable**.

The spiritual meaning of the parable was not immediately clear. The disciples of Jesus, including the twelve, didn't know what Jesus meant, and they **asked of him the parable**.

It's interesting to note that Jesus spoke before a “great multitude” (verse 1), but only a few asked Him the meaning of the parable.

Verse 11 And he said unto them, **Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without**, all these things are done in parables:

Why is that?

1 Corinthians 2:14 Answers this because:

¹⁴ But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Jesus will answer the disciples' question about the parable, but first He will teach them why He uses parables.

Verse 12 That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

It shows that Jesus' speaking in parables was a fulfillment of the prophecy, and that the reason many in Israel would be unable to understand was their own self-caused hardening. Verse 12 is a fulfillment of:

Isaiah 6:9-10

⁹ And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.

¹⁰ Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

Verse 13 And he said unto them, **Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables?**

Jesus considered this parable as essential to understanding His other parables.

The Parable of the Sower explained:

Verse 14 The sower soweth the word.

1 Peter 1:23

²³ Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

The seed is the word of God and Jesus is gonna explain what happens when the word goes forth:

Verse 15 And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, **Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.**

The way side soil is the hardened hearer. Their Hearts are hardened by sin and do not receive God's word.

A newspaper or a magazine or a novel isn't sown in one's heart, but when one reads or hears The Word of God, The Word of God is sown in their heart. And looks who shows up immediately- SATAN! Satan has access to one's heart and he will do anything and everything to enter your heart and take The Word of God away from you!

An unsaved person goes to Church and hears the Gospel being Preached, they like it and for a brief moment it's in their heart, but when the Invitation to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour is given, and they reject it and become upset. Why? **"Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts"**.



Verse 16 And these are they likewise which are sown on **stony ground**; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness;

Verse 17 **And have no root in themselves**, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when **affliction or persecution** ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.

The shallow soil is the unstable hearer. Some people are like the ground that is rocky, but covered with a thin layer of topsoil. They receive the seed of the word with a flash of enthusiasm that quickly burns out. The “**stony ground**” hearer isn’t attacked directly by Satan, but by **affliction or persecution**. Jesus knew that many have an immediately favorable reaction to the word of God, but they give it up quickly when it becomes difficult to follow Jesus.

“**And have no root in themselves**” It’s interesting to note that Jesus is “**The Root**”!

Isaiah 53:2

²For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, **and as a root out of a dry ground**: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

Romans 15:12

¹²And again, Esaias saith, **There shall be a root of Jesse**, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

Revelation 22:16

¹⁶I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David**, and the bright and morning star.

And the unstable hearer in shallow soil may like The Gospel, Church Christianity and Jesus, but because it’s in rocky soil and they suffer **affliction or persecution- like being teased or rejected by friends or family, they reject Jesus and never take “root” in Jesus, Church etc...**

Then you have the stable listener who accepts Jesus, becomes Borne Again and takes root in Jesus!

Colossians 2:6-7

⁶**As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord**, so walk ye in him:

⁷**Rooted and built up in him**, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.



And remember Christian, even when you're rooted in Jesus you will suffer **affliction and persecution!**

Verse 18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word,

Verse 19 And **the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things** entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.



We might say this ground is *too* fertile. The word of God grows there, but so does everything else. And everything else soon begins to crowd out the word of God.

Where was Thorns first mention? In The Garden, after Adam and Eve sinned!

Genesis 3:17-18

¹⁷ And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

¹⁸ **Thorns** also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

The thorny ground is the hearer who allows **Three Things** to choke out the word in his life:

1. The cares of this world.

The cares of this world is anything that you devote more time to and love more than God, which then **chokes you** from The Lord's Service! You become **unfruitful!**

Sports, Interests & Hobbies, the Smart Phone, Computer/Internet, Education pursuits, Volunteerism... These things are ok as long as you don't spend more time with and love more than God! **Cares** may be either sinful *or* innocent.

2 Timothy 3:1-4

¹ This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

² For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

³ Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

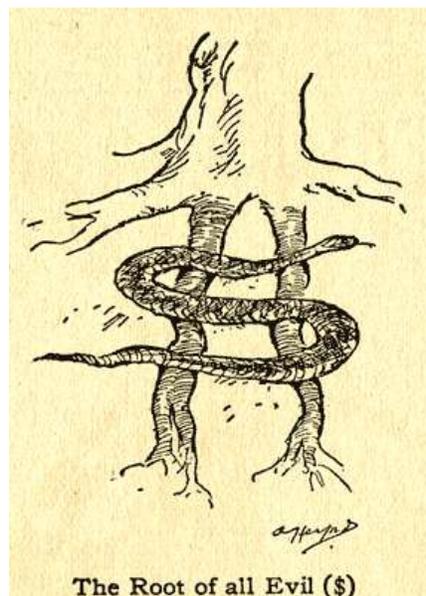
⁴ Traitors, heady, highminded, **lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;**

2. The deceitfulness of riches.

Money! Money! Money!

1 Timothy 6:10

¹⁰ **For the love of money is the root of all evil:** which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.



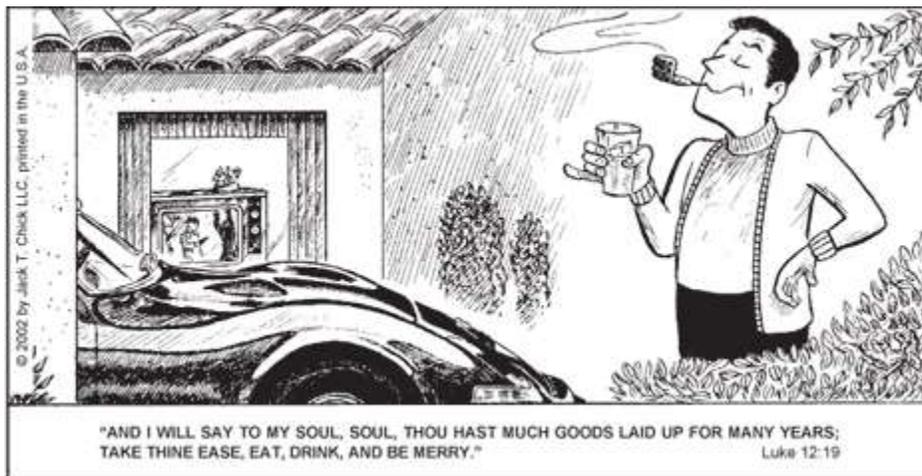
Luke 12:18-21

¹⁸ And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

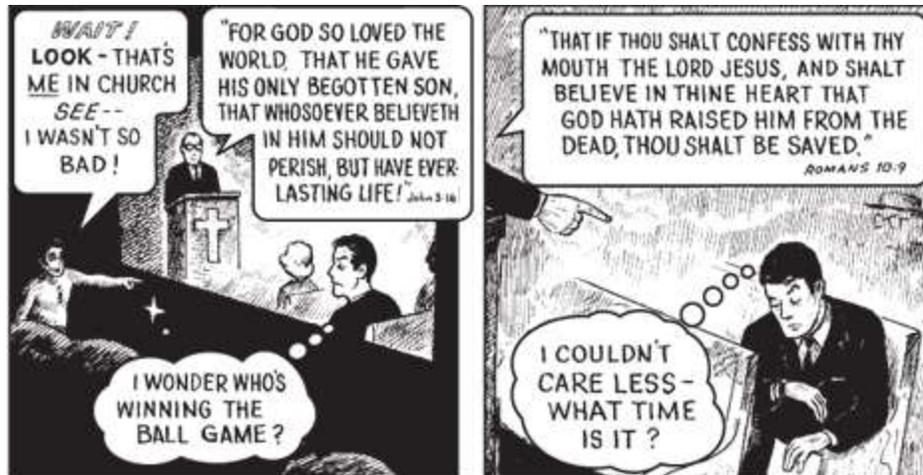
²⁰ But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

²¹ So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, **and is not rich toward God.**

**3. The lusts of other things:**

Is anything else that chokes you from the Word of God!





Verse 20 And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, **and bring forth fruit**, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred.

Some people are like the good ground, and they **receive** the word, **and bring forth fruit**, thus fulfilling the purpose of the seed.

This parable shows that when the word is received as it should be, *something happens* - **fruit is produced!**

Important Concluding Thoughts:

The Seed was Good Seed,

The Sower wasn't rebuked for sowing everywhere on the field,

The Sower wasn't rebuked for sowing on the different types of soil,

Every type of Soil received the Seed, Good Soil and Bad Soil,

$\frac{3}{4}$ of the Seed was wasted and didn't produce fruit,

Why? Bible Application:

We have The Seed,

We're to Sow The Gospel everywhere, **NOT JUST TO A PREDESTINED ELECT!**

We're to Sow The Seed to Everybody!

And it's the Heart Condition (Free Will) that decides what to do with The Word of God!

The Results:

Verse 20: “And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred”

Jesus says that when one becomes Saved some will grow:

30, 60 and some 100!

Only 25% of The Seed grew and only 1/3 produced 100%

Are you a 30, 60 or a 100% producer?

Well, what happens if we Sow and nothing seems to be growing?

Answer: The problem isn't The Seed or the Method of Sowing, the problem is the God rejecting/hardened hearted soil...

We don't change The Sowing Method! Jesus told us how to Sow!

We just keep Sowing!

So Sow on my Brothers and Sisters!

Remember, the harvest of your tomorrow depends on the seed you sow today!



Not Cool.....

2 Corinthians 9:6

6But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 4

Little Sentence Parable Sermons

Verse 21 And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick?

Verse 22 For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad.

What happens when you do this? You don't see the Candle's light anymore.

In Revelation 1:20, The Candlestick is The _____!

Revelation 1:20

²⁰The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

The Candle is the Truth that Jesus gives to the Believer/Church,

The Candlestick is The Church,

So the Candle should be displayed on the Candlestick, so that the World can see the Truth which Jesus has given us! By its very nature, light is meant to be revealed. Truth is the same way, and God promises that it will be revealed. God didn't light your Candle so that it would remain hidden.

Verse 23 If any man have ears to hear, **let him hear.**

The idea is hearing with understanding.

Verse 24 And he said unto them, **Take heed what ye hear:** with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: **and unto you that hear shall more be given.**

“let him hear, Take heed what ye hear”

When we hear the word, we become accountable; so we must take care how we hear.

“and unto you that hear shall more be given” More what? Answer: More of God's word and the more desire to hear God's word. When we hear the word of God, and receive it with gladness, more will be given to us from God's spiritual riches.

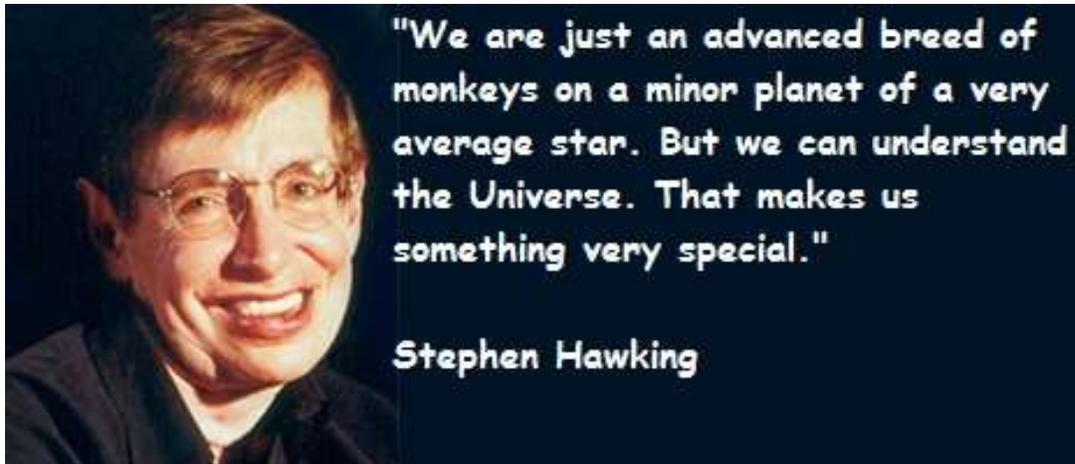
What are the people listening to? What are they hearing? A fair question!

Scoffers:

2 Peter 3:3-4

³ Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

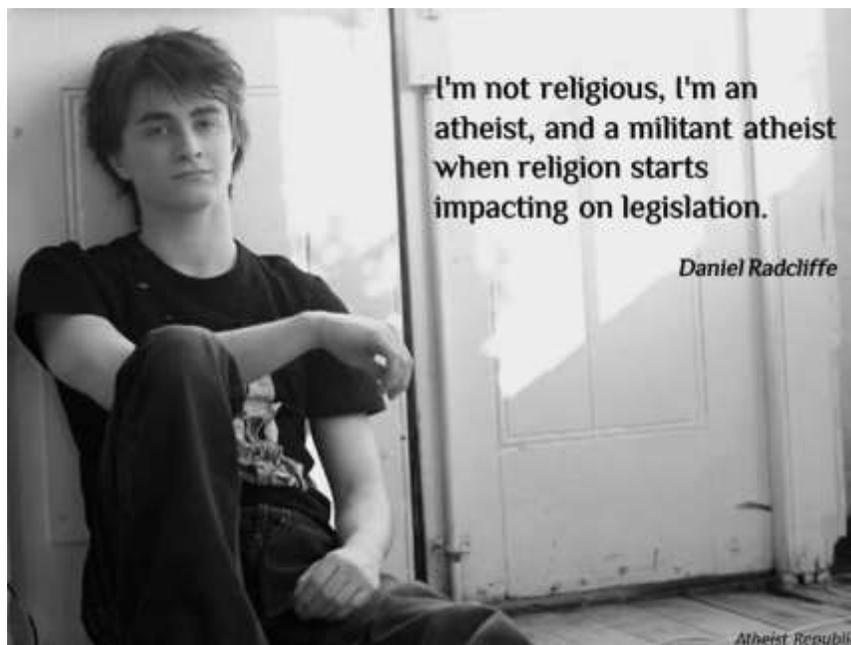
⁴ And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.



Fools:

Ecclesiastes 7:5

⁵ It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.



Politicians:

“Whatever we once were, we are no longer a Christian nation”

“I believe that there are many paths to the same place, and that is a belief that there is a higher power, a belief that we are connected as a people.”

**Rock n Roll Musicians:**

AC/DC, The title of their album and their hit song "Highway to Hell" they sing:

"Ain't nothing I would rather do

GOIN' DOWN, PARTY TIME

My friends are gonna be there too . . .

Hey Satan, paid my dues . . .

I'm on the way to the promised land

I'm on the HIGHWAY TO HELL."



Heretics:**2 Timothy 4:3**

³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;



"To me, I define religion as man's attempt to get to God. And I have studied all the major religions... and they all just have a different way to get to God." - **Rick Warren**, quoted by Tamara Hartzell, *In the Name of Purpose: Sacrificing Truth on the Altar of Unity*, Xlibris Corporation, 2007, p. 243, ISBN: 9781425736262

Rick Warren has embraced the CHRISLAM movement- a syncretist movement designed by to further the idea that we “all worship the same god.” And in fact signed The Yale University’s “Common World” Covenant which promotes this! <http://faith.yale.edu/common-word/common-word-christian-response>

In a speech to a Moslem community, Rick Warren said:

“Before we “shake your hand” in responding to your letter, we ask forgiveness of the **All-Merciful One** and of the Muslim community around the world.”

Here, Warren refers to God as the “all-Merciful One” which is not a biblical name for God but a Qu’rannic name thereby establishing in writing his allegiance to a false God.

The Ungodly:**Jeremiah 27:9**

⁹Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon:

It’s sad what people are Listening and Hearing to!

Verse 25 For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.

Verse 25 means: To the student of divine truth more of divine truth shall be revealed. The lazy student shall not only learn no more, but shall even forget what he already knows.

In another context: Jesus applied this law to the judgment of the one-talent man from whom the one talent was taken and given to the man who had ten talents (Matthew 25:19-28)

These two parables recorded in Mark 4:26-34 are related to each other morally. These parables are also recorded in Matthew 13.

The Parable of The Seed Growing:

Verse 26 And he said, So is the kingdom of God, **as if a man should cast seed into the ground;**

“as if a man should cast seed into the ground” Refers to humans proclaiming of the Gospel,

Verse 27 And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.

His sleeping and rising night and day indicates that human effort is not the cause of the growth of the seed. Man has done what he could do - plant the seed; and **God has done what only He can do: grow the seed!** When you hear the word it works in you - even as you sleep!

Verse 28 For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; **first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.**

Verses 26-28 you have **The Law of Growth: Nothing springs forth fully mature.**

a. “first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear”

b. In John chapter 15 Jesus says we bear: fruit, more fruit and much fruit,

c. In Mark chapter 4 verse 20: **“and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred”**

Spiritual Growth takes time! We start off as a Baby and we mature, when a Christian leaves a Liberal Church and joins a Bible Believing Church it'll take time for him to grow!

Verse 29 But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because **the harvest is come.**

“the harvest is come” This is not the gathering of saints, but the gathering of men to Christ.

It’s like this:

1. Preaching the word is sowing the seed, whereby the Gospel and Kingdom of God is spread throughout the world.

Psalm 126:6

⁶He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

2. And the great husbandman is watching over His tilled fields

1 Corinthians 3:9

⁹For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

3. Then He will take to Himself the fruit for which He has waited so patiently:

James 5:7

⁷Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Remember:

The Fruit isn’t for the plant, the Fruit is for the Owner=The Lord!

The Fruit one produces isn’t for self; it’s for The Lord, His Church and others!

The Fruit of The Spirit in Galatians chapter 5 isn’t for self; it’s for The Lord, His Church and others!

Galatians 5:22-23

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

²³Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.



Love, Joy!



Gentleness, Goodness!

The Mustard Seed, verses 30-34:

Verse 30 And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it?

Verse 31 It is like a **grain of mustard seed**, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth:

“a grain of mustard seed” A grain of mustard seed stood proverbially in Bible Times for the smallest possible thing. For instance, "faith as a grain of mustard seed" means "the smallest possible amount of faith." This mustard seed did in fact grow into a big tree.

Verse 32 But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.

Some regard this as a beautiful picture of the Church growing so large that it provides refuge for the entire world. But this mustard seed plant has grown into a big Tree, and it harbors **fowls/birds** - who in the parables are emissaries of Satan, according to the Parable of the Sower ([Mark 4:13](#)). They devour the good seed in the Parable of the Sower, and now they are seen hiding in the branches of the mustard tree. How well the Lord knew the turn that events would take!

“The growth of the kingdom will not result in the conversion of the world. In fact, some of the growth will give opportunity for Satan to get in and go to work!” - Warren Wiersbe

We see six things in this small Parable:

1. The Kingdom of God, verse 30
2. The Sower sowing, spreading The Gospel, verse 31
3. The Earth= “the World”, verse 31
4. The Seed= The Word of God/The Gospel, verses 31-32
5. Groweth/Shooteth= Church Growth, Souls Saved
6. Fowls in Shadow= The Presence of Evil-The Devil, verse 32



Mustard Tree

Verse 33 And with many such parables spake he the word unto them, **as they were able to hear it.**

“as they were able to hear it” The wise learner does not go away to forget. He goes away to think over what he has heard. The wise learner should also seek The Lord's company. The man who wishes to learn from Christ must company with Christ. If he does that he will grow, not only learning, but life itself.

Verse 34 But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples.

By speaking in Parables and Explaining them to His Disciples it gives the Disciples an opportunity to “grow” (much of chapter 4) and understand the things of God!

Concluding thoughts:

The use of parables by Jesus was for a twofold purpose:

1. He taught many deep and important truths in this form in order to test the reality of His hearers' interest.
2. If truly concerned, they would seek to get the meaning of the story and would become earnest inquirers. If indifferent, they would pay no further attention and would go on in their careless way, hardening their hearts against the truth (Matthew 13:11-15; Luke 8:10). Those whose consciences were challenged would find that these vivid illustrations fixed in their minds the great truths that Jesus taught, making an unforgettable impression on them.

Jesus used illustrations of the most clear and yet simple character. If His hearers showed any further interest **He** was glad to explain the meaning in a way that His hearers could understand. He never sought to charm or allure by “great swelling words,” as do the representatives of evil systems. He used language that was easy to understand and was always prepared to instruct any seeking person. In all this He was the master preacher, an example to all who seek to serve Him by Sowing His Word.



Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 4

Jesus rebukes the stormy Sea of Galilee, verses 35-41:

Let's read Mark 4:35-41

³⁵ And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

³⁶ And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

³⁷ And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

³⁸ And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

³⁹ And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

⁴⁰ And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

⁴¹ And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

Verse 35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, **Let us pass over unto the other side.**

Jesus had just taught the multitude from a boat just off the shore of the Sea of Galilee. When the teaching was finished, He didn't return to shore. He just said to the disciples, "**Let us pass over unto the other side.**"

Jesus here proposes crossing to the eastern side of Lake Galilee. This beautiful lake was surrounded by at least a dozen towns in the time of Christ and was the most densely populated area of Palestine. It is thirteen miles long, six miles wide, pear-shaped; and the surface lies 700 feet below sea level. Steep mountains rise along both the western and eastern shores. It is fed by the Jordan river which enters at the north end and exits at the south where it resumes its course to the Dead Sea. The water is fresh and sweet, abounds with fish, and is edged with sparkling pebbly beaches.

Verse 36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him **even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.**

The disciples sailed off with him just **as he was in the ship** from which he had been teaching the people; and they did not wait to provide any accommodations for the passage.

"And there were also with him other little ships" This very important detail indicates:

1. That the great audience on land was accompanied by a considerable number who approached in boats to hear the Lord, and
2. Also, that there were other witnesses of the great miracle besides those aboard with Jesus. This also emphasizes the sudden and unexpected nature of the storm; because, if it had been threatening, neither the disciples nor those in the other boats would have begun the crossing.

Verse 37 And there arose **a great storm of wind**, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.



“a great storm of wind” The Sea of Galilee is well known for its sudden, violent storms. Due to its 700 foot depression below sea level and the bordering mountains, it is subject to very severe and sudden storms, such as the one here.

“Stirred up, likely, by the devil to drown Christ and his disciples.” - John Trapp

“Jonah ended up in a storm because of his disobedience, but the disciples got into a storm because of their *obedience* to the Lord.” - Warren Wiersbe

Verse 38 And he was in the **hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow**: and they awake him, and say unto him, **Master, carest thou not that we perish?**

“hinder part of the ship” Back part of the ship. **“asleep on a pillow”** Only reported place in The New Testament that Jesus was asleep. Jesus’ true humanity is shown by His sleep on the boat. He became weary, and sometimes caught a bit of sleep wherever He could. Although God’s arm has been known to sleep:

Isaiah 51:9

⁹Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon?

The severity of this storm is shown by the reaction of the disciples (**we perishing**). Several of the disciples were experienced fishermen on this very lake, and they were frightened and feared **perishing** in this storm!

“Master, carest thou not that we perish?” Notice the **“we.”** Their idea was, “Hey Jesus, You’re in trouble here too. Maybe You had better wake up, get a bucket and start bailing along with us, because **we are perishing!**”

Verse 39 And he arose, **and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace**, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.



Jesus didn’t merely quiet the wind and the sea; He **rebuked the wind** and **the sea**. This, together with the disciples’ fear and what Jesus will encounter at His destination, give the sense that Satan had a hand in this storm.

When Jesus rebuked and casted out the unclean spirit in Mark 1:25, He uses the same words **“Rebuked” & “Peace”**.

Mark 1:25

²⁵ And Jesus **rebuked** him, saying, Hold thy **peace**, and come out of him.

Mark tells us other **little ships** were also with Him. When Jesus calmed the stormy Sea of Galilee, He did not only rescue Himself and the disciples, but all the others in the **little ships**.

It’s interesting to compare Jonah, who also fell asleep during a storm:

JONAH was fast asleep at the lower level of the boat during the storm (Jonah 1:5-6).

JESUS was fast asleep at the back of the boat during the storm (Mark 4:38).

JONAH was cast into the sea to save unbelievers from the wrath of God in the storm (Jonah 1:15).

JESUS calmed the storm but was cast up on the cross to save unbelievers from the wrath of God (John 12:32).

JONAH spent three days and nights in the belly of a great fish (Jonah 1:17).

JESUS spent three days in the "heart of the earth", i.e., the tomb (Luke 24:46).

Because of JONAH'S sacrifice God's wrath is satisfied and unbelievers worship God (Jonah 1:16).

Because of JESUS' sacrifice God's wrath is fully satisfied and unbelievers repent and worship God (Acts 2:36-37).

JONAH emerges to preach God's judgment (Jonah 3:4-5).

JESUS emerges to preach God's salvation from judgment (Luke 24:27).

Verse 40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

It was not their *fear of the storm* that made Jesus say they had **no faith**. A small boat in a big storm is a scary place, and the initial fear itself isn't wrong. What the disciples chose to *do* with their fear and faith made all the difference.

Faith: Belief in the existence of God: strong religious feelings or beliefs, In theology, the assent of the mind or understanding to the truth of what God has revealed. Simple belief of the scriptures, of the being and perfections of God, and of the existence, character and doctrines of Christ, founded on the testimony of the sacred writers,

Levels of Faith:

1. No Faith!

Deuteronomy 32:20

²⁰ And he said, I will hide my face from them, I will see what their end shall be: for they are a very froward generation, children in whom is **no faith**.

2. Weak Faith:

Romans 14:1

1 Him that is **weak in the faith** receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations.

3. Little Faith:

Matthew 14:31

³¹ And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, **O thou of little faith**, wherefore didst thou doubt?

4. Great Faith!

Matthew 8:10

¹⁰ When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so **great faith**, no, not in Israel.

Do you have: Strong Faith?

Romans 4:20

²⁰ He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was **strong in faith**, giving glory to God;

Are you Full of Faith?

Acts 6:5

⁵ And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose **Stephen, a man full of faith** and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

Do we have Mutual-Corporate Faith?

Romans 1:12

¹² That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the **mutual faith both of you and me**.

Faith can be increased!

Luke 17:5

⁵ And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.

One way is by reading our Bibles and listening to Good Preaching!

Romans 10:17

¹⁷ So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

When we have Faith we're Blessed!

Galatians 3:9

⁹ So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

Faith is a mark of the Christian!

2 Corinthians 5:7

⁷ (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

Faith will produce good works!

James 2:17

¹⁷ Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

It's not "Hope and Change" it's **Faith!**

Hebrews 12:2

² Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Verse 41 **And they feared exceedingly**, and said one to another, **What manner of man is this**, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

"And they feared exceedingly" The total calm of the sea should have filled them with peace, but instead, they were just as afraid when He calmed the storm as when they were in the middle of it.

"What manner of man is this" Who can this be? It can only be the LORD, Jehovah, who only has this power and authority.

Psalms 89:8-9

⁸ O LORD God of hosts, who is a strong LORD like unto thee? or to thy faithfulness round about thee?

⁹ Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.

Concluding thoughts:

Mark 4:35-41 make a Good Preaching Sermon!

Mark 4:35-41

³⁵ And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

Jesus is asking all to come to the other side and that place is called Heaven!

³⁶ And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

And there's Three Things that Happen when you accept The Lord's offer!

1. You send away the Multitude. "they had sent away the multitude" Goodbye World, goodbye multitude, goodbye sinning buddies!

2. You take the ship of Jesus, the ship of Zion! "they took him even as he was in the ship"

3. You take Jesus as he is. “they took him even as he was” Jesus is God, Jesus is Saviour, Jesus is King of Kings and Lord of Lord’s!

³⁷ And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

³⁸ And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

³⁹ And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

The Multitude can’t Save You, the Multitude can’t get You to the other side, but Jesus can!

⁴⁰ And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

We need to put our Faith in Jesus, not the Multitude!

⁴¹ And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

Again, “**What manner of man is this**” Who can this be? It can only be the LORD, Jehovah, who only has this power and authority.

Psalm 89:8-9

⁸ O LORD God of hosts, who is a strong LORD like unto thee? or to thy faithfulness round about thee?

⁹ Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.

The end result!

Mark 5:1

1 And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes.

Hymn: “The Old Ship of Zion”

I was drifting away on life's pitiless sea,
And the angry waves threatened my ruin to be,
When away at my side, there I dimly descried,
A stately old vessel, and loudly I cried:
"Ship ahoy! Ship ahoy!"
And loudly I cried: "Ship ahoy!"

'Twas the "old ship of Zion," thus sailing along,
All aboard her seemed joyous, I heard their sweet song;
And the Captain's kind ear, ever ready to hear,
Caught my wail of distress, as I cried out in fear:
"Ship ahoy! Ship ahoy!"
As I cried out in fear: "Ship ahoy!"

The good Captain commanded a boat to be low'red,
 And with tender compassion He took me on board;
 And I'm happy today, all my sins washed away
 In the blood of my Savior, and now I can say:
 "Bless the Lord! Bless the Lord!"
 From my soul I can say: "Bless the Lord!"

O soul, sinking down 'neath sin's merciless wave,
 The strong arm of our Captain is mighty to save;
 Then trust Him today, no longer delay,
 Board the old ship of Zion, and shout on your way:
 "Jesus saves! Jesus saves!"
 Shout and sing on your way: "Jesus saves!"



2 Chronicles 13:12

¹² And, behold, **God himself is with us for our captain**, and his priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against the LORD God of your fathers; for ye shall not prosper.

Next week: Chapter 5!

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Mark Chapter 5

This chapter records the events regarding the Unclean spirits of Gaderene (Mark 5:1-20), and the raising of the daughter of Jairus from the dead (Mark 5:21-24,35-43), and the miracle of healing the woman with the issue of blood (Mark 5:25-34).

The Authority of Jesus over the Gaderene demons.

1 And they came over unto the **other side of the sea**, into **the country of the Gadarenes**.



Other side of the sea ... that is, the eastern shore of Galilee.

“the country of the Gadarenes,” a region controlled by the town of Gadara, one of the ten cities of the Decapolis. The miracle referred to took place, without doubt, near the town of Gergesa, the modern Kersa, close by the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee, and therefore **“the country of the Gadarenes”**. But as Gergesa was a small village, and little known, Mark, who wrote for more distant readers, spoke of the event as taking place in the country of the Gadarenes, so named from its largest city, Gadara.

Verse 2 And when he was come out of the ship, **immediately there met him** out of the tombs a man with an **unclean spirit**,

“immediately there met him” Jesus didn't seek the devil possessed man, the devil possessed man sought Jesus!

“unclean spirit” Devils are called "unclean spirits" (verse 2) because they specialize in uncleanness – immorality, adultery, fornication, indecency, homosexuality, foul language, dirty jokes, pornography, etc. Millions of lost souls are enslaved by pornography and other sins of the flesh. The terms “evil spirits,” “unclean spirits” and “devils” (KJV) are used interchangeably.

Luke 9:42

⁴² And as he was yet a coming, the **devil** threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the **unclean spirit**, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.

Demon is the English translation from Latin *daemon* "spirit," from Greek *daimon* "deity, divine power; lesser god; guiding spirit, tutelary deity", translated "devil" in the KJV of the New Testament.

Here is the most detailed description of a demon possessed man we have in the Bible!
Verses 3-5:

³ Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains:

⁴ Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.

⁵ And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.

The Man's 7 Signs of Demonic Possession:

1. Devils like Death/Cemeteries. Verse 3: "**dwelling among the tombs**". The man possessed by unclean spirits is "unclean" according to OT Law!

Numbers 19:16

¹⁶ And whosoever toucheth one that is slain with a sword in the open fields, or a dead body, or a bone of a man, **or a grave, shall be unclean seven days.**

2. They caused the man to possess Super Strength. Verses 3-4: "**, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces**"

3. They caused the man to become out of Control. Verse 4: "**neither could any man tame him**"

4. They cause Depressed/Violent acts against self. Verse 5: "**crying, and cutting himself with stones**"

5. They deprive the man much needed sleep, up at Night. Verse: "**And always, night and day, he was in...**"

5. They recognize **Jesus** as "**thou Son of the most high God**" and appeal to Him Verse 7.

6. The man roomed Naked. **Luke writing in:**

Luke 8:27

²⁷ And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, **which had devils long time, and ware no clothes**, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs.

7. The Man was Possessed a long time. **Luke 8:27, "which had devils long time"**

From verse 2, the demon possessed man's reaction to Jesus:

Verse 6 But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him,

He runs and to and worships Jesus! The effect of his possession was that of splitting the personality, seeing the difference between what was done by the demons and what was done by the man. Demons: verses 3-5, the man: verse 6.



The unclean spirits reaction:

Verse 7 And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, **Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.**

This is the unclean spirits speaking, not the man possessed. The demon did not want to leave his “host” and are speaking through the man (possession).

Jesus, thou Son of the most high God?

אל עליון

El – Elyon This name of Most High God is very ancient, appearing in connection with Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18), Balaam (Numbers 24:16), and in the Song of Moses (Deuteronomy 32:8). **El – Elyon** emphasizes God's uniqueness and his **supremacy** above all others. It reminds us he is the Creator of heaven and earth and the Owner of all.

Genesis 14:18-22

¹⁸ And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of **the most high God**.

¹⁹ And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of **the most high God**, possessor of heaven and earth:

²⁰ And blessed be **the most high God**, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

²¹ And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

²² And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the Lord, **the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth**,

“I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not” These demons considered it **torment** to be put out of this man’s body. Why do demons want to inhabit human bodies? For the same reason why a violent man wants a gun. A human body is a weapon that they can use in their attack against God.

Demons also attack men because they hate the image of God in man, so they attack that image by corrupting man and making him unproductive for both God and man - just as they did to this man in the country of the Gadarenes.

The Son of The Most High God speaks to the unclean spirit:

Verse 8 For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.

Jesus Demonstrates His Authority over Devils. Verses 9-13

So far in Mark’s Gospel Jesus demonstrates His Authority in His: Teaching, Over Devils, Over Medical-Physical-Healing, Over the Weather and again over the Devils!

Verse 9 And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is **Legion**: for we are many.

A Roman **Legion** usually consisted of 6,000 men. When they replied **“Legion,”** they really weren’t saying a name, but simply trying to intimidate Jesus with a **large number**. **Legion** says, “There are many of us, we are organized, we are unified, we are ready to fight, and we are mighty.” We’re not sure how many devils were possessing the man, but we know it was **legion**.

Another example of many devils possessing a person: Mary Magdalene.

Mark 16:9

⁹ Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, **out of whom he had cast seven devils**.

Verse 10 And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country.

Luke adds that the demons don’t want to be sent into the deep. A demon doesn’t want to be sent away, they want to possess/indwell a host. They want to be busy!

Matthew 12:43-45

⁴³ When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none.

⁴⁴ Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished.

⁴⁵ Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

Verse 11 Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding.

Verse 12 And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them.

Verse 13 And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.



Verse 14 And they that fed the swine fled, and told it in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done.

“Satan would rather vex swine than do no mischief at all. He is so fond of evil that he would work it upon animals if he cannot work it upon men.” (Spurgeon)

Why would Jesus allow the demons to enter the swine? Two reasons:

1. The Lord healed the man.

2. The Lord took care of the illegal Swine/Pig/Pork business! Well, you go back to the Mosaic law and you find that they weren't to keep swine; that was a forbidden meat under the law. This was an illegal venture raising swine. And so, this no doubt is the reason why the Lord allowed them that permission to go into the swine, and He got rid of an illegal industry as far as the Jews were concerned.

Verse 15 And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, **and in his right mind: and they were afraid.**

Here, this man that they couldn't bind with chain and fetters. Here, this man that was out there screaming, crying, cutting himself with rocks and could not be tamed, naked, tragic, horrible spectacle. And now he's seated there, clothed and in his right mind.



And they were afraid: They were more afraid of a free man than a possessed man. When they saw the man **in his right mind**, sitting at the feet of Jesus, **they were afraid.**

Verse 16 And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and also concerning the swine.

Verse 17 And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts.

They didn't seem to mind having this demon possessed, tormented man in their midst, but they did mind having Jesus around, why? \$\$\$ - so they asked Him to leave - *and He did!*

Just like a drug addict would rather have his drugs than Jesus, just like a drunk would rather have his booze than Jesus, just like our VAIN SELF-CENTERED "GOOD" PEOPLE would rather have themselves than Jesus, the lost-the town's people reject Jesus! They begged Jesus to leave, so sad...

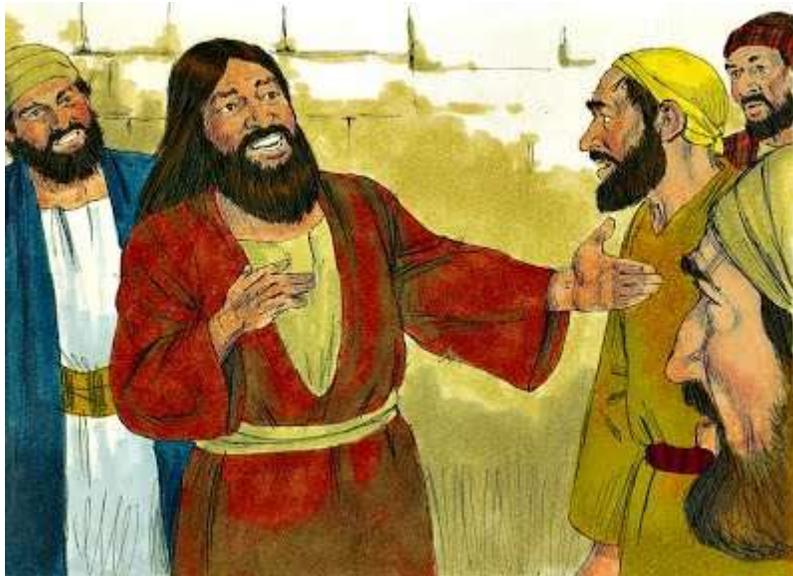
The reaction of the man who had been delivered from the demons towards Jesus. **Verses 18-20:**

Verse 18 And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him.

Verse 19 Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.

Verse 20 And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel.

Why would Jesus refuse to allow him to follow and then permit him to speak openly? Jesus knew that his witness would be much more powerful among those who had known him as a demoniac. By going to his own people in the Decapolis (the “10 cities” in that region), the former demoniac would be talking about Jesus to the very same people who had chained his hands and shackled his feet. He would explain the miracle to the very same people who had heard him cry out day and night among the tombs and in the mountains. He would proclaim Christ to the very same people who had watched him cut himself. In the Gospel of Mark, actions speak louder than words. The man went away in obedience to Jesus and declared the message of which he was the living proof.



“And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things JESUS had done for him: and all men did marvel!”

Pastor Hank's Notes on: The Gospel of Mark

Mark Chapter 5

Verse 21 And when Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side, much people gathered unto him: and he was nigh unto the sea.

“Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side”

The other side ... means the western shore of Galilee. In Mark 4 Jesus, His Disciples and other little ships cross from East to West across The Sea of Galilee. **Mark 5:1:** “And they came over unto the **other side of the sea**, into **the country of the Gadarenes**”. Jesus then heals and casts out unclean spirits from the possessed man. Jesus then returns to the city of Capernaum. Now interestingly **Matthew reports:**

Matthew 9:1

1 And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

Matthew (Matthew 4:13) tells us that he had left Nazareth, and was now dwelling at Capernaum, thus fulfilling the ancient prophecy with regard to Zebulun and Naphthalim (Luke 4:16-31). Matthew 9:1 calls Capernaum his own city.

The Four Cities of Jesus:

1. Born in Bethlehem,
2. Nazareth by his education,
3. Capernaum by making it “**his own city**” and,
4. Jerusalem by his death.

Jesus demonstrates His authority over sickness and death:

A father asks Jesus to heal his daughter:

Verse 22 And, behold, there cometh one of the **rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name**; and when he saw him, he **fell at his feet**,

Verse 23 **And besought him greatly**, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, **come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live**.

The **rulers of the synagogue** was somewhat like a modern day “Pastor.” He managed both the spiritual and the business affairs of the synagogue. This man came in desperation to Jesus (**fell at His feet And besought him greatly**), because his only daughter was **at the point of death**.

Luke 8:42 ⁴² For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged him.

“come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live”: This man had Faith in Jesus. He believed that Jesus had all power to heal his daughter. **But** he also believed that Jesus should be there for it to happen, he asked The Lord: **“come and lay thy hands on her”**.

The Man had Faith, but he wanted to see, why?

1 Corinthians 1:22

²² For the **Jews require a sign**, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

It’s interesting to note that when a Roman Centurion came to Jesus in a similar situation (**Luke 7:1-10**), Jesus didn’t even go to the centurion’s house to heal the servant. He simply pronounced him healed from a distance.

“This was weakness of faith, far short of that of the centurion, who yet was a Roman soldier; whereas Jarius was a learned Jew. Knowledge is therefore one thing, faith another; and the greatest scholars are not always the holiest men.” - **John Trapp**, June 5, 1601-October 16, 1669 was an English Anglican Bible commentator.

Verse 24 And Jesus went with him; and much people followed him, **and thronged him**.

“and thronged him” This indicates that the crowd itself got into Jesus' way as he set out to go to the home of Jairus.

The Intertwining of the two miracles: All of a sudden:

Verse 25 And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years,

This woman was in a desperate condition. Her condition made her ceremonially and socially unclean, and this would be quite a burden to live under for 12 years. According to the OT Law, if this woman touched anyone, she made them ceremonially unclean, an uncleanness that would not allow them to take part in any aspect of Israel’s worship (Leviticus 15:19-31).

Verse 26 **And had suffered many things of many physicians**, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse,

Mark gives here a depressing description of the experience this poor woman had received from many physicians. The doctors had taken all of the woman's money, prescribed many useless and ineffective remedies, none of which did any good; and all the while the patient only got worse!

“And had suffered many things of many physicians” When a person is physically sick and sees many Doctors **“and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse”**, the same can be said when a person’s is Spiritually sick; they go to “Doctor Entertainment,” “Doctor Success”, “Doctor Pleasure,” “Doctor Self-Help,” or “Doctor Religion” **“and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse”** these can’t cure a heart or mind, only **“Doctor Jesus”** can!

But now **The Great Physician Jesus** is walking by!

Verse 27 When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.

Verse 28 For she said, **If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.**

Because this woman's condition was embarrassing, and because she was ceremonially unclean and would be condemned for touching Jesus or even being in a pressing crowd, she wanted to do this secretly. She would not openly ask Jesus to be healed, but she thought "**If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.**"

God had commanded Hebrew men to wear a border on their garments, "the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue" (Numbers 15:38), the same being a reminder that they were God's people. The Tallit (Hebrew) is the outer clothing worn over the regular clothing. People/Modern day call it the Prayer Shawl.



Prayer Shawl

The unnamed woman is a type/picture of a Sinner who needs to be healed and Saved. She had touched Him and she knew her defilement had defiled Jesus. Likewise, our defilement of sin defiled Him - He was made sin for us on the Cross.

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Verse 29 And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and **she felt in her body** that she was healed of that plague.

Verse 30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that **virtue had gone out of him**, turned him about in the press, and said, **Who touched my clothes?**

When the woman was healed, *both* the woman and Jesus knew it happened. She **felt in her body** that it happened, and Jesus felt "**virtue had gone out of him**".

Who touched my clothes? Jesus knew already who had touched, had already judged her faith, and had by his own will healed her. We should not fall into her superstition by thinking the physical clothes healed her! Nor should we fall into the guilty error of ascribing ignorance to

Jesus as the reason for his asking the question. Was God asking for information when he inquired, "Adam, where art thou?" (Genesis 3:9), or when he asked of Cain, "Where is Abel thy brother?" (Genesis 4:9). The reason for the question was resident in the fact that Jesus desired to bestow upon the woman a **greater blessing** than mere healing.

Verse 31 And his disciples said unto him, **Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?**

The disciples were amazed that Jesus could ask this question. Given the situation, **His disciples said to Him, "Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, 'Who touched Me?'"** The disciples didn't understand the difference between *casual contact* with Jesus, and *reaching out to touch Him in faith*.

Verse 32 And he looked round about to see **her** that had done this thing.

Jesus was not looking for "the person" but for "**her**" who had done it. He already knew not only the sex, but the history, the faith, and the intention of the one whom he had already healed.

Verse 33 But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth.

The woman saw instantly that nothing was hidden from The Lord, and was fearful that he might be displeased with her actions she fell in worship at his feet and poured out the entire story of her twelve years of miserable sorrow, spent resources, frustrating physicians, and of her desperate resolve to find at last in Jesus the healing of her shame.

When we come to Jesus, we must tell Him all **the truth**,

1. We must tell Him all **the truth** about our *sin*. We come to Him as the Great Physician and He asks, "What seems to be the problem?" So don't leave anything out.
2. We must tell Him all **the truth** about all our *suffering*.
3. We must tell Him all **the truth** about the *other doctors and cures we tried*.
4. We must tell Him all **the truth** about all our *hopes*, because He wants to know what He can do for us.

Verse 34 And he said unto her, **Daughter**, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

Note that this is the only recorded occasion in which Jesus referred to a woman as "**Daughter**." He adopted this woman, healed but penniless, scorned, separated from her community for 12 years, into the family of God, and He did so publicly. He also clarified the fact that it was **her faith**, not her touching of His robe, which healed her. He then pronounced His blessing upon her as His daughter, "Be of good courage; go into peace." What a compassionate and remarkable Physician is Jesus!

Meanwhile... Poor Jarius! During all this, his daughter sits ill at home, her life slipping away. It must have tortured him to see Jesus take time out to minister to this woman while his daughter suffered. God is never slow, but He often *seems* slow to the sufferer.

Verse 35 While he yet spake, **there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain** which said, Thy daughter is dead: **why troublest thou the Master any further?**

“there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain” Some of Jairus' fellow-rulers of the synagogue had been embarrassed by one of themselves appealing to the humble Lord Jesus!

How Jarius' heart sank when he heard this. He must have thought, “I knew this was taking too long. I knew Jesus shouldn't have wasted His time on this silly woman. Now the situation is hopeless, **why troublest thou the Master any further?.**”

Verse 36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, **Be not afraid, only believe.**

Jesus tells Jarius two things: **be not afraid, only believe!**

Do not fear for thy daughter's life; do not fear the scorn of your peers; do not fear that your Daughter's healing has been thwarted by this delay in healing the woman... **Only Believe!!!!!!**

Jesus raises Jarius' daughter from the dead:

Verse 37 And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James.

The Inner Circle of Jesus: Peter, James and John respond to Jairus's house with The Lord. They were also present at The Transfiguration and The Betrayal at The Garden of Gethsemane.

Verse 38 And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth **the tumult**, and them that wept and wailed greatly.

“the tumult”: a crowd or mob; uproar

Verse 39 And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth.

Verse 40 And **they laughed him to scorn.** But **when he had put them all out**, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying.

In that day it was customary to hire professional mourners to add to the atmosphere of grief and pain at a death. But the professional mourners could only grieve superficially. Notice how quickly they turn from weeping to ridicule (**they laughed him to scorn**). Scornful laughter is never the behavior of broken-hearted friends and relatives.

“when he had put them all out” Jesus would have nothing to do with these people who don’t believe His promises. He drove them out so that they would not discourage the faith of Jarius.

Verse 41 And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise.

In Aramaic, "Talitha, cumi," is "My little lamb, arise." Jesus was speaking to this little girl in extremely endearing terms. Looking at the twelve year old daughter of Jarius that was lying there still in death, He said, "My little lamb, arise."

Verse 42 And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.



Verse 43 And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat.

The question arises, why would Jesus bring this little girl back into a World full of strife, misery and woe? Being with the Father in heaven would be much better than to be in this world with all of its heartache and all of its pain and all of its suffering. Why would the Lord call her back into this world? Only because of His compassion for the parents' grief.

Concluding thoughts:

In all this we see how the work of Jesus is different, yet the same among each individual. If Jesus can touch each need this personally, He can touch our needs the same way.

1. Jarius had twelve years of sunshine that were about to be extinguished. The woman had twelve years of agony that seemed hopeless to heal.
2. Jarius was an important man, the ruler of the synagogue. The woman was a nobody. We don’t even know her name.

3. Jarius was probably wealthy, because he was an important man. The woman was poor because she spent all her money on doctors.

4 Jarius came publicly. The woman came secretly.

5. Jarius thought Jesus had to do a lot to heal his daughter. The woman thought all she needed was to touch Jesus' garment.

6. Jesus responded to the woman immediately. Jesus responded to Jarius after a delay.

7. Jarius' daughter was healed privately. The woman was healed publicly.

Three of The Lord's Great Miracles in one chapter! Amen!

The Eight Resurrections of The Bible: (Not including Jesus)

3-OT, 3-Gospels, 2 From The Book of Acts

Interesting Points, The Old Testament *Foreshadowing* The New Testament:

Two were Son's of a Widow:

OT: Elijah raised the son of the Zarephath widow from the dead (1 Kings 17:17-22).

NT: Jesus raised the son of the widow of Nain from the dead (Luke 7:11-15).

Two were Children of a Rich Person:

OT: Elisha raised the son of the Shunammite woman from the dead (2 Kings 4:32-35).

NT: Jesus raised the daughter of Jairus from the dead (Luke 8:41, 42, 49-55).

Two were full grown Men:

OT: A man was raised from the dead when his body touched Elisha's bones (2 Kings 13:20, 21).

NT: Jesus raised _____ from the dead (John 11:1-44).

2 From The Book of Acts:

Peter raised Dorcas from the dead (Acts 9:36-41).

Eutychus was raised from the dead by Paul (Acts 20:9, 10).