



THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God



Part 10

"The Rejection of the Messiah"

4-18-21

Introduction

- In His proclamation of the kingdom of God and in the miracles that He performed, Jesus demonstrated His power and authority. As His ministry expanded, people were forced to reckon with who He truly was.

Key Point: Although Jesus was _____ by some and _____ in His work by others, His ministry continued to grow as He called others to Himself and set them apart as servants of God.

The Lord & Those Who Follow Him

Jesus & the Great Crowd—Mark 3:7-12

- Mark's description of the crowd that followed Jesus indicates the _____ of His ministry.

Mark 3:7-8—⁷Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea ⁸and Jerusalem and Idumea and from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him.

- Jesus' responses to the crowd and to the demons further demonstrated how He used His power and _____.

Mark 3:9-11—⁹And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, ¹⁰for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him. ¹¹And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God." ¹²And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

Key Point: The responses of both the crowd and the demons to Jesus will stand as an _____ against the religious leaders who will ultimately reject Him.

Jesus & the Apostles—Mark 3:13-19

- Jesus' authority to _____ and _____ was again demonstrated as He set apart the twelve apostles.

Mark 3:13-15—¹³And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. ¹⁴And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach ¹⁵and have authority to cast out demons.

⇒ This exercise of authority recalls Moses climbing Mt. Sinai with the priests and elders of the Israel (Exod. 24:1-4).

"apostles"

- The calling of these men to serve as His inner circle was both _____ and _____.

Mark 3:16-17—¹⁶He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); ¹⁷James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); ¹⁸Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, ¹⁹and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Key Point: In setting apart the twelve, the Lord Jesus demonstrated that primary identity marker of His followers is that they are those who will be _____ Him.

"Without any meaningful relationship with Jesus, their lives and mission in the future will be ineffectual. To be with Jesus ultimately has nothing to do with physical proximity. It means have a meaningful relationship with Him that results in heeding His words and following His example." —David Garland, *A Theology of Mark's Gospel*.

The Lord & Those Who Oppose Him

Jesus' Family Seeks Him — Mark 3:20-21

- After resuming His ministry in Capernaum, the _____ of Jesus came

Mark 3:20-21—²⁰Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."

⇒ The actions of Jesus' family were possibly in response to reports of His altercations with the Pharisees. They have come there-fore to take hold of Him for His own sake and for that of the family's reputation.

Key Point: The actions of His family, though possibly well-_____, demonstrated their lack of faith in Him and were therefore a hinderance to His ministry.

The Blasphemy of the Scribes—Mark 3:22-30

- Mark inserts an account of Jesus' interactions with scribes who had come to Galilee from _____.

Mark 3:22—*And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons."*

⇒ Their accusation seems to be spoken about Jesus rather than to Him and, if true, would be a capital offense (Lev. 20:27). To attribute His works of healing and deliverance to occult forces served as a clear rejection of Him and His ministry.

- Jesus confronted them with a _____ that drew on imagery from the Old Testament.

Mark 3:26-27—²⁶*And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.*

⇒ Jesus' illustrations are both logical and biblical. First, He states that civil war within a kingdom will lead to its destruction and then He then draws on imagery from Isa. 49:24-26 in order to show that He has come to deliver people from captivity to their great enemy.

- Jesus then authoritatively _____ them about the eternal consequences of their blasphemous claims against the work of the Holy Spirit.

Mark 3:28-30—²⁸*"Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"*—³⁰*for they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."*

⇒ This is perhaps an ironic use of the term 'blasphemy' as it can refer to slanderous speech directed towards another. Although they have slandered Him, they have also committed blasphemy against God Himself! Because of this, they are in danger of committing a sin with eternal consequences.

"...it may be safely asserted that the vast majority of...cases involving those who fear that they have committed or might commit 'the unforgiveable sin' have little or nothing to do with what this saying is talking about. It is a warning to those who adopt a position of deliberate rejection and antagonism, not an attempt to frighten those of a tender conscience." —R.T. France, *Mark*

Key Point: This decisive rejection of Jesus by the religious leaders pointed forward to the ultimate _____ that He had come to accomplish.

Jesus' Mother & Brothers—Mark 3:31-35

- Mark then returns to the account of Jesus' family in order to highlight an important aspect of _____.

Mark 3:33-35—³³*And he answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!" ³⁵For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."*

"While becoming Jesus' disciple may cause the fabric of the family to rip, this pronouncement reveals that Jesus does not call people to be completely bereft of family. Disciples become a part of a greater family of faith whose first allegiance is to do the will of God."

—David Garland, *A Theology of Mark's Gospel*

Key Point: Jesus' use of familial terminology in reference to His followers highlights the _____ nature of the relationship that He invites people to share with Him and one another.

Concluding Thoughts

1. We have been warned of the sinful tendency of people to _____ the Lord.

Directly →

Indirectly →

2. We have been encouraged in what it means to live as a follower of Jesus.

We are to be with _____!

We are to be with His _____!