



THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God



Part 15

"Knowing the Messiah"

6-6-21

Introduction

Mark's gospel has introduced Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God (1:1-15), describing the early receptivity to His ministry (1:16-2:12) as well as the increasing opposition to it (2:13-3:35). Although Jesus had begun to teach primarily in parables (4:1-34), He continued to perform powerful works that demonstrated His true identity and caused many to believe in Him (4:35-5:43).

"The triumphal progress of Jesus through the recent part of the narrative (since the explanatory discourse of chapter 4) is in danger of leaving the reader with a false security. One after another the forces of wind and water, demonic possession, illness, and even death have yielded to His authority. Forgetting the picture of divided response in chapters 2-3, the reader may be beginning to feel there is something almost automatic about the 'success' of Jesus' ministry."
—R.T. France, *The Gospel of Mark*

Key Point: The rejection of the Lord by those of His hometown and the obedience of the disciples to His commission, each demonstrate that _____ is what ultimately distinguishes those who know *about* Jesus from those who truly *know* Him.

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth—Mark 6:1-6

- Mark's narrative transitions to describe a change in location and a return to his account of the growing _____ towards Jesus.

Mark 6:1-3—¹ He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ² And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

Observations

1. Jesus' return to Nazareth seems to have a connection to the coming of His family to _____.
2. The questions that the people ask among themselves reveal that they recognize the uniqueness of His _____ and _____ and yet they also question their origin.
3. In the end, they reject Jesus because of their familiarity with Him.
⇒ They know His profession...He is just a _____!
⇒ They know His _____!
"took offense"

- Mark conveys to us Jesus' response to those of His hometown as well as the _____ of their unbelief.

Mark 6:4-6—⁴ And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household." ⁵ And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. ⁶ And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.

Observations

1. Jesus' quoted to them a common proverb that also alluded to Israel's history of rejecting the _____.
2. The result of their unbelief was that few attesting _____ were done amongst them.
3. Jesus _____ to their unbelief is highlighted.

Key Point: The people of Nazareth ultimately refused to believe that He was _____ in spite of His words and works because of their familiarity with Him.

The Sending Out of the Twelve—Mark 6:7-13

- Although He was rejected by some, Jesus intended to _____ the reach of His ministry through His disciples.

Mark 6:7-11—⁷ And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— ⁹ but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. ¹⁰ And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. ¹¹ And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.”

Observations

1. The sending out of apostles allows them to _____ the name that Jesus had previously given to them (3:14).
 2. His instructions to them describe the _____ in which they were to carry out their mission.
 3. His words also prepare them for the ways that people will _____ to their message.
- Having been commissioned by Jesus, the disciples responded in _____ and went out as instructed.

Mark 6:12-13—¹² So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. ¹³ And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

Observation

- * Through faith in Him, their ministry came to mirror His ministry.

Proclaiming repentance (1:14-15)

Casting out demons and healing the sick (1:34)

Key Point: The disciples obeyed Jesus because they believed that He was Messiah and, as a result, they were able to _____ with Him in the work that He came to accomplish.

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God

1. Mark wants his audience to truly know Jesus (unlike the people in Nazareth!) and to receive by faith the benefits of His wisdom and His works.
2. Mark wants his audience to recognize the privilege that they have by faith (like the disciples!) to participate with God in the work that He is accomplishing in the world.

Concluding Thoughts

- There is a tremendous difference between _____ Jesus, and merely knowing _____ Him.

Phil. 3:8-10—⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death

- All Christians are _____ by God to participate with God in the work that He is doing in the world.

Eph. 4:1-3—¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.