

Sunday August 27th

THE GOSPEL
ACCORDING TO

mark

This Sunday we will ideally cover from Mark 1:8 till the end of Chapter 3.

I'd love your help and I have two ways in mind of achieving that. The first is this, could as many as are able read from Mark 1:8 – 3:12 and summarise the three most common themes in Jesus Ministry covered in these verses.

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1. Mark 1: 8 –45 Jesus begins His Ministry in Galilee – preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God
2. Mark 2: 1-28 Jesus ministry challenges the Pharisees
3. Mark 3:1-8 Pharisees begin to plot against Jesus

1. Teaches

2. Performs signs and wonders that validate his credentials as the Messiah foretold.

3. Arguing that the prevailing rabbinic rulings on the commandments don't match with the accepted principles of precedence in Rabbinic jurisprudence.

1. Stories about Jesus
2. Challenging accepted religious traditions
3. Miracles and healings

1. Jesus prepares for his ministry with his baptism, overcoming the devils temptations in the wilderness, prayers and calling of his disciples.
2. Jesus heals people by driving out evil spirits, healing fevers, lepers and the paralysed.
3. Jesus teaches about fasting and the Sabbath, often in parables.

1. Jesus Obeys – baptism
2. Jesus Calls – disciples
3. Jesus Heals - Many, leper, paralytic, Guy with a shrivelled hand

1. Jesus showed who He is, by what he does.
2. Jesus calls sinners to discipleship.
3. Jesus loves the outcast.

Church Thoughts

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Mark 1:9 -28

- Baptism Of Christ
- Jesus was Tempted
- Choosing/Calling His Disciples

Mark 1:29 -45

- Willing To Help People
- Preaching
- Faith In Healing

Mark 2:1-17

- Jesus heals physically and spiritually with power and forgiveness
- Acceptance of everyone with Authority
- Out of desperation all are drawn to Him

Mark 2:18 -3:12

- Healing on the Sabbath
- He taught through his parables
- Jesus was the Son of God

MARK 3 :13-35

Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. ¹⁴ He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach ¹⁵ and to have authority to drive out demons. ¹⁶ These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter), ¹⁷ James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means “sons of thunder”), ¹⁸ Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot ¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him

²⁰ Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. ²¹ When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.”

²² And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, “He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.”

²³ So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: “How can Satan drive out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. ²⁶ And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. ²⁷ In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up.

Then he can plunder the strong man’s house.

²⁸ Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin.”

³⁰ He said this because they were saying, “He has an impure spirit.”

³¹ Then Jesus’ mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. ³² A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, “Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you.”

³³ “Who are my mother and my brothers?” he asked.

³⁴ Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.”

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What will they Preach?

The need for Repentance

Mark 1:4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Mark 1:14-15 Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

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Matthew 12:31-32

And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. ³² Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

THE UNFORGIVEABLE SIN

I think the reason is that the Holy Spirit has a very unique role to play in our Salvation. If we look at God the Father in His glory and then we turn away from Him and embrace sin that's a terrible thing. That's worthy of damnation and if we turn away from the Son that He sent into the world to die for our sins and all the glory that we behold in Him and we embrace sin, that is a doubly horrible thing, doubly worthy of damnation but there is still hope for people who do that. Why, because the Holy Spirit is the member of the Trinity uniquely appointed to move into your life open your eyes grant you to recognise the irresistible glory of Jesus Christ and God the Father and bring you to repentance and if you reject Him there will be no repentance if we blaspheme and reject the Father and the Son there's hope but if we make the last resistance against the Holy Spirit and spurn Him then who is going to open our eyes to see the Glory of Christ.

JOHN PIPER

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THE UNFORGIVEABLE SIN

“Worrying about [whether one has committed the unforgivable sin] is one of the clearest evidences that [the troubled person has] not committed this sin, for those who commit it are so hardened in their hearts that they do not care that they commit it.” Blasphemers of the Holy Spirit are so hardened against God that they do not care about sin, so if we are repentant, we can be sure we have not blasphemed the Spirit.

Could the Devil be at work among us?

Forgiveness

2 Corinthians 2:11 in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

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RIGHT THINKING

Proverbs 3:

- 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
- 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.

Romans 1: 21-22 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools

MATERIALISM

Luke 16: 13 “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

¹⁴ The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus.

Matthew 6:19 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, ...

²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, ... ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

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APPLICATIONS

1. Have you repented and been baptised?
2. Have I become confident in my own thinking and need to repent of that?
3. Have I become a servant of money. In love with what I believe it will get me. Trusting in it to meet my needs in place of God? Repent