

GOSPEL OF MARK  
JESUS CHRIST, SERVANT OF GOD

1. JESUS SHOWS HIS POWER OVER MAN, DISEASE AND SIN!!
  - A. MARK 2:1-12 A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. [2] SO MANY GATHERED THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. [3] SOME MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYTIC, CARRIED BY FOUR OF THEM. [4] SINCE THEY COULD NOT GET HIM TO JESUS BECAUSE OF THE CROWD, THEY MADE AN OPENING IN THE ROOF ABOVE JESUS AND, AFTER DIGGING THROUGH IT, LOWERED THE MAT THE PARALYZED MAN WAS LYING ON. [5] WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE PARALYTIC, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN." [6] NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING TO THEMSELVES, [7] "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?" [8] IMMEDIATELY JESUS KNEW IN HIS SPIRIT THAT THIS WAS WHAT THEY WERE THINKING IN THEIR HEARTS, AND HE SAID TO THEM, "WHY ARE YOU THINKING THESE THINGS? [9] WHICH IS EASIER: TO SAY TO THE PARALYTIC, 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,' OR TO SAY, 'GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK'? [10] BUT THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS. . . ." HE SAID TO THE PARALYTIC, [11] "I TELL YOU, GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO HOME." [12] HE GOT UP, TOOK HIS MAT AND WALKED OUT IN FULL VIEW OF THEM ALL. THIS AMAZED EVERYONE AND THEY PRAISED GOD, SAYING, "WE HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS!"
    - I. WHAT WAS JESUS' PRINCIPLE MISSION? WHAT DID JESUS PREACH?
    - II. WHEN JESUS LOOKED UP, WHAT DID HE SEE?
    - III. WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THIS ACTION WHEN GOD SEES IT?
      - (1) MATTHEW 21:22 IF YOU BELIEVE, YOU WILL RECEIVE WHATEVER YOU ASK FOR IN PRAYER."
      - (2) HEBREWS 11:6 AND WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE GOD, BECAUSE ANYONE WHO COMES TO HIM MUST BELIEVE THAT HE EXISTS AND THAT HE REWARDS THOSE WHO EARNESTLY SEEK HIM.
      - (3) JAMES 1:5-8 IF ANY OF YOU LACKS WISDOM, HE SHOULD ASK GOD, WHO GIVES GENEROUSLY TO ALL WITHOUT FINDING FAULT, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO HIM. [6] BUT WHEN HE ASKS, HE MUST BELIEVE AND NOT DOUBT, BECAUSE HE WHO DOUBTS IS LIKE A WAVE OF THE SEA, BLOWN AND TOSSED BY THE WIND. [7] THAT MAN SHOULD NOT THINK HE WILL RECEIVE ANYTHING FROM THE LORD; [8] HE IS A DOUBLE-MINDED MAN, UNSTABLE IN ALL HE DOES.
    - IV. YOU ARE THE PARALYTIC, HOW DO YOU FEEL, ESPECIALLY WHEN JESUS ANNOUNCES, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN"?
    - V. HOW DO YOU FEEL AFTER HE HAS HEALED YOU?
    - VI. IN WHAT WAYS DOES JESUS' HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC ANSWER THE QUESTION RAISED IN THE MINDS OF THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW?
      - (1) THE CHARGE WAS TRUE, ONLY GOD CAN FORGIVE SINS, BUT GOD HAS GIVEN THIS POWER TO THOSE WHO ARE UNDER HIS AUTHORITY.

(A) JOHN 20:20-23 AFTER HE SAID THIS, HE SHOWED THEM HIS HANDS AND SIDE. THE DISCIPLES WERE OVERJOYED WHEN THEY SAW THE LORD. [21] AGAIN JESUS SAID, "PEACE BE WITH YOU! AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, I AM SENDING YOU." [22] AND WITH THAT HE BREATHED ON THEM AND SAID, "RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT. [23] IF YOU FORGIVE ANYONE HIS SINS, THEY ARE FORGIVEN; IF YOU DO NOT FORGIVE THEM, THEY ARE NOT FORGIVEN."

(2) THE PARALYTIC'S FRIENDS PROVIDE A MODEL OF CARING. WHAT ARE SOME PRACTICAL WAYS WE CAN FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLE?

2. JESUS MAKES IT CLEAR ABOUT HIS CALLING!

A. MARK 2:13-17 ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. [14] AS HE WALKED ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT UP AND FOLLOWED HIM. [15] WHILE JESUS WAS HAVING DINNER AT LEVI'S HOUSE, MANY TAX COLLECTORS AND "SINNERS" WERE EATING WITH HIM AND HIS DISCIPLES, FOR THERE WERE MANY WHO FOLLOWED HIM. [16] WHEN THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW WHO WERE PHARISEES SAW HIM EATING WITH THE "SINNERS" AND TAX COLLECTORS, THEY ASKED HIS DISCIPLES: "WHY DOES HE EAT WITH TAX COLLECTORS AND 'SINNERS'?" [17] ON HEARING THIS, JESUS SAID TO THEM, "IT IS NOT THE HEALTHY WHO NEED A DOCTOR, BUT THE SICK. I HAVE NOT COME TO CALL THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT SINNERS."

I. HERE YOU SEE JESUS CALLING OUT A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL AND THAT OFFICIALS RESPONSE.

II. CONTRAST THE PHARISEES' ATTITUDE TOWARD TAX COLLECTORS AND "SINNERS" WITH THAT OF JESUS.

III. HOW IS SIN LIKE ILLNESS, ESPECIALLY LEPROSY AND PARALYSIS?

IV. JESUS CAME ANNOUNCING THE KINGDOM AND CALLING PEOPLE TO FOLLOW HIM. WHAT CHANGE WOULD NEED TO TAKE PLACE IN THESE PHARISEES BEFORE THEY COULD ANSWER JESUS' CALLING?

V. JESUS IS STILL CALLING TODAY, WHAT PRICE DID THIS TAX COLLECTOR PAY FOR FOLLOWING JESUS, WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?

VI. WHO DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE SOME OF THE "UNLOVELY" OR "UNREACHABLE" FOR GODS' KINGDOM TODAY?

(1) WE CAN NOT LOOSE SIGHT, THESE WERE JESUS' TARGET FOR THE KINGDOM.

VII. WHAT STEPS CAN YOU TAKE TO BRING YOUR THINKING AND ACTIONS TOWARD THESE TO BE IN LINE WITH THOSE OF JESUS?

VIII. WE SING, 'TO BE LIKE JESUS' WHO ARE OUR FRIENDS, WHO ARE WE TRYING TO HELP?

3. WHAT IS NEW? SHOULD THE CHURCH TODAY LOOK LIKE WHAT THE PHARISEES WANTED IT TO LOOK LIKE?

A. MARK 2:18-22 NOW JOHN'S DISCIPLES AND THE PHARISEES WERE FASTING. SOME PEOPLE CAME AND ASKED JESUS, "HOW IS IT THAT JOHN'S DISCIPLES AND THE DISCIPLES OF THE PHARISEES ARE FASTING, BUT YOURS ARE NOT?" [19] JESUS ANSWERED, "HOW

CAN THE GUESTS OF THE BRIDEGROOM FAST WHILE HE IS WITH THEM? THEY CANNOT, SO LONG AS THEY HAVE HIM WITH THEM. [20] BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY WILL FAST. [21] "NO ONE SEWS A PATCH OF UNSHRUNK CLOTH ON AN OLD GARMENT. IF HE DOES, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. [22] AND NO ONE POURS NEW WINE INTO OLD WINESKINS. IF HE DOES, THE WINE WILL BURST THE SKINS, AND BOTH THE WINE AND THE WINESKINS WILL BE RUINED. NO, HE POURS NEW WINE INTO NEW WINESKINS."

I. A TRULY RELIGIOUS PERSON WOULDN'T DO SUCH A THING!

(1) "RELIGIOUS IS FINE, BUT YOU'VE BECOME A FANATIC?"

II. JESUS' FOLLOWERS WERE NOT ACTING AS THEY SHOULD.

III. WHAT DID JESUS CALL HIS FOLLOWERS RELATIONSHIP TO THE BRIDEGROOM.

IV. FIRST PARABLE OF MARK, CHRIST AS THE BRIDEGROOM.

V. SECOND PROPHECY, 'TAKEN FROM THEM', FOLLOWERS WILL FAST.

VI. SECOND PARABLE, RENEWAL OF LIFE WITH GOD, THE OLD AND NEW SYSTEM OF RELIGION CANNOT BE MIXED AND HOW THE DISCIPLES WERE GOING THROUGH A PROCESS TO FIT THEM FOR THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NEW RELIGION WHEN CHRIST WOULD LEAVE THEM.

VII. THIS ENTIRE PASSAGE DEALS WITH THE QUESTION ASKED JESUS, HE DID NOT CHANGE THE SUBJECT, HE EXPLAINED IT.

4. WHAT THE CHURCH SHOULD BE, AND WHO CHRIST IS, IS CAUSING CONFLICT!

A. MARK 2:23-28 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS OF GRAIN. [24] THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" [25] HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? [26] IN THE DAYS OF ABIATHAR THE HIGH PRIEST, HE ENTERED THE HOUSE OF GOD AND ATE THE CONSECRATED BREAD, WHICH IS LAWFUL ONLY FOR PRIESTS TO EAT. AND HE ALSO GAVE SOME TO HIS COMPANIONS." [27] THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH. [28] SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE SABBATH."

I. IN THE FIRST PART OF THIS STUDY, WE SEE THE PICTURE THAT MARK IS DRAWING.

JESUS BATTLING THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS TO HIS DEFENDING HIMSELF AGAINST THE CHARGES OF THE ESTABLISHED RELIGION.

II. WE SEE WHERE JESUS POINTS OUT THAT THE NEW WILL NOT BE DEPENDANT UPON THE OLD.

III. NOW WE SEE THE FIRST OF TWO PICTURES OF THE SABBATH.

(1) HOW ARE JESUS' AND THE PHARISEES' ATTITUDES TOWARD THE SABBATH DIFFERENT?

(A) WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT ABOUT WHAT JESUS SAYS ABOUT DAVID AND THE CONSECRATED BREAD, WHOM DOES THE BREAD REPRESENT?

(i) 1 SAMUEL 21:1-6 DAVID WENT TO NOB, TO AHIMELECH THE PRIEST.

AHIMELECH TREMBLED WHEN HE MET HIM, AND ASKED, "WHY ARE YOU ALONE? WHY IS NO ONE WITH YOU?" [2] DAVID ANSWERED AHIMELECH

THE PRIEST, "THE KING CHARGED ME WITH A CERTAIN MATTER AND SAID TO ME, 'NO ONE IS TO KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR MISSION AND YOUR INSTRUCTIONS.' AS FOR MY MEN, I HAVE TOLD THEM TO MEET ME AT A CERTAIN PLACE. [3] NOW THEN, WHAT DO YOU HAVE ON HAND? GIVE ME FIVE LOAVES OF BREAD, OR WHATEVER YOU CAN FIND." [4] BUT THE PRIEST ANSWERED DAVID, "I DON'T HAVE ANY ORDINARY BREAD ON HAND; HOWEVER, THERE IS SOME CONSECRATED BREAD HERE--PROVIDED THE MEN HAVE KEPT THEMSELVES FROM WOMEN." [5] DAVID REPLIED, "INDEED WOMEN HAVE BEEN KEPT FROM US, AS USUAL WHENEVER I SET OUT. THE MEN'S THINGS ARE HOLY EVEN ON MISSIONS THAT ARE NOT HOLY. HOW MUCH MORE SO TODAY!" [6] SO THE PRIEST GAVE HIM THE CONSECRATED BREAD, SINCE THERE WAS NO BREAD THERE EXCEPT THE BREAD OF THE PRESENCE THAT HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM BEFORE THE LORD AND REPLACED BY HOT BREAD ON THE DAY IT WAS TAKEN AWAY.

- (B) KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS WHOLE PICTURE IS ABOUT THE NEW, NEW, NEW RELATIONSHIP THAT GOD IS ESTABLISHING.
- (C) WHAT IS HE SAYING ABOUT HIS FOLLOWERS?
- (D) HE SAYS THAT THE SABBATH [PART OF THE LAW] WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH, WHAT DID HE MEAN?