

The Kingdom of God: Already, Not Yet

Foretaste of Glory Divine: Mark 5 - Session 4 - TGP

Mark 1:1 & Mark 5

Mark doesn't open his Gospel with a birth story.

- He doesn't open with a genealogy. He opens with a headline:
- **Mark 1:1** - "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. "
- That's the announcement. Before anything else happens, Mark tells you who this story is about — and who Jesus is: the Son of God. Every chapter after that, every miracle, every word, is evidence for that claim.
- This is an eyewitness account – It is Mark's record first hand from the Apostle Peter

This is the world the Son of God walked into.

- **Disease** — cancer, dementia, the diagnosis that changes everything.
- **Demons** — We do not wrestle against flesh and blood but against principalities / power, rulers of the darkness of this world. We know what it feels like when something grips a person we love that no argument, no medicine, no willpower can touch.
- **Death** — the enemy that always wins, the one that took someone you love and will one day come for all of us.

These three have reigned over humanity since the Fall – We rebelled against God in the Garden.

- No medicine has cured them. No philosophy has explained them away.
- No army has ever defeated them. They are the old regime.

And then, in the opening chapter of his Gospel, Mark tells us what the Son of God did the moment his public ministry began.

Mark 1:14–15 - "Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the **kingdom of God is at hand**; repent and believe in the gospel.'"

Do you hear what that is?

- The King has landed — and He's announcing a counter-offensive against the reign of demons, disease, and death.
- And "at hand" doesn't mean coming soon. It means arrived — not in full, but in person. Where the King is, His reign is breaking in.
- But here's the thing about a declaration: it's not a victory.
- A king can announce his reign. Anyone can say the kingdom is at hand.

The question is — can he prove it? That's where Mark 5 comes into play

By chapter 5, Mark stops announcing and starts demonstrating.

- Remember what we have seen – Last Week, Jesus demonstrated Power/Authority over the Storms. We have already seen his power displayed in his teach, preaching and healing ministry.

Mark 5:1 - "**Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes.**

Jesus gets in a boat, crosses the Sea of Galilee, and steps onto the eastern shore — into the Decapolis.

- The Decapolis was a federation of Greek cities — Gentile territory. Pagan territory.

- These Ten cities were where the gods of Rome and Greece were worshipped, and where Jewish law and custom had very little standing.
- This is Gentile Soil – This is the very territory of the old regime...
- And watch what happens the moment his feet hit the sand.

Mark 5:2 - "And when He had come out of the boat, immediately (Mark's favorite word) **there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit,**

- No warm-up. No welcome committee. And look where the darkness chooses to meet him — out of the tombs.
- The King lands, and the first thing that confronts him is a man living among the dead.
- The counter-offensive has begun. The Kingdom is pushing back the darkness — and this is only a foretaste of the glory to come when the Kingdom of God is fully expressed.

Jesus' Power over Demons: The King Confronts the Unseen World (Mark 5:1–20)

Mark tell us in verse 3-5 That this man is living out in the tombs.

- No one could bind him; No Chains can hold him – He is continually (night / day) cutting himself.
- This guy is **beyond every human help**. He is the outcast of the Outcasts.
- This man is under siege – a man whose own body has become a battlefield.

Mark 5:6-10 - When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. ⁷ And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me." ⁸ For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" ⁹ Then He asked him, "What is your name?" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." ¹⁰ Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country.

Stop there. The demon knew who Jesus was before the disciples fully did.

- The title Mark used to open his Gospel — "Son of God" — comes out of the mouth of a demon in chapter 5. The enemy knows his master's rival.
- Jesus is standing face to face with the unseen world

Mark 5:11-13 - ¹¹ Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. ¹² So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them." ¹³ **And at once Jesus gave them permission.** Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.

We have an enemy that is real, active and is out to get you.

John 10:10 - The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Ephesians 6:10-13 – Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

I Peter 5:8 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

I John 4:4 - You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

The Kingdom's first victory happens where no medicine, no army, and no argument can reach — the unseen world.

Stitch: The Kingdom pushes back a darkness no one else could even see.

Transition: But if the King can win in the unseen world — what happens when the darkness comes to your doorstep?

Jesus' Power over Disease: The King Walks into Suffering (Mark 5:21-34)

Mark 5:21 - ²¹ Now when Jesus had crossed over again by boat to the other side, a great multitude gathered to Him; and He was by the sea. ²² And behold, one of the rulers of the synagogue came, Jairus by name. And when he saw Him, he fell at His feet ²³ and begged Him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter lies at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her, that she may be healed, and she will live." ²⁴ So Jesus went with him, and a great multitude followed Him and thronged Him.

Mark 5:25 - ²⁵ Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, ²⁶ and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. ²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. ²⁸ For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well."

Mark 5:29 - ²⁹ Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. ³⁰ And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"

This healing happened along the way...

Jairus was a ruler of the synagogue. He would have been one of the most respected religious man in town. And he falls at Jesus' feet: "My little daughter is at the point of death. Please come and lay your hands on her" (Mark 5:23)

Jesus goes. No lecture, no hesitation.

- But on the way, the crowd presses in — and a woman who has bled for twelve years reaches out and touches him.
- **What Faith** - She heard about this miracle worker named Jesus. Possibly with pagan superstition, she believes that if she could just touch Him or His clothing she could be healed. Her theology may be weak but her faith is strong!
- Though hundreds thronged about Him, only one woman connected with Him in faith. Spiritually and physically desperate, she did the unthinkable and unacceptable. She reached out and touched Him, and she did so in faith. (Akin, *Exalting Jesus: Mark*, p. 113)

Mark 5:34 - And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

- First, Jesus cares for those in trouble.
- Second, Jesus is the omnipotent God!

He has authority over what is impossible for you and me. Nature, demons, diseases, and even death surrender completely and immediately to His sovereign authority. (Akin, *Exalting Jesus: Mark*, p. 112)

But Jairus's daughter is still dying —

- **Imagine for a moment if you were Jairus – Perhaps anxiety / frustration is building**
- **This woman's been sick for 12 year, can't she wait 30 minutes... then and the worst news of all is coming down the road.**

Mark 5:35-43 - While He was still speaking, *some* came from the ruler of the synagogue's *house* who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?"

Mark 5:36-39 ³⁶ As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe." ³⁷ And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. ³⁸ Then He came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and saw a tumult and those who wept and wailed loudly. ³⁹ When He came in, He said to them, "Why make this commotion and weep? The child is not dead, but sleeping."

Mark 5:40-43 ⁴⁰ And they ridiculed Him. But when He had put them all outside, He took the father and the mother of the child, and those *who were* with Him, and entered where the child was lying. ⁴¹ Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, "Talitha, cumi," which is translated, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." ⁴² Immediately the girl arose and walked, for she was twelve years *of age*. And they were overcome with great amazement. ⁴³ But He commanded them strictly that no one should know it, and said that *something* should be given her to eat.

Jesus' Power over Death: The King Reverses the Irreversible (Mark 5:35-43)

Every doctor, every king, every empire has surrendered to this enemy. Jesus doesn't.

- The messengers meet them: "Your daughter is dead" (Mark 5:35). And in the middle of the chaos, Jesus says to Jairus: "Don't be afraid. Just believe" (Mark 5:36). He takes the girl's hand: "Little girl, I say to you, get up!" (Mark 5:41, NLT). And she gets up. And walks.

The King has now pushed back every darkness — the unseen, the incurable, the irreversible.

- Disease, demons, death — the old regime has met its match.
- And what we just watched isn't the end of the Kingdom's story. It's a foretaste.

"The Kingdom Has Begun"

So what have we actually watched today? Three miracles. But if we only see miracles, we've missed the story.

- What we've watched is bigger than a healing service.
- What we've watched is the Kingdom of God breaking into a broken world.

Remember how we started? *Mark opened his Gospel with an announcement:*

Mark 1:1 - The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Mark 1:15 – Jesus is preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God ... ***The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.***

Mark 5 is the proof that the declaration wasn't empty.

- Jesus didn't just talk about the Kingdom — He walked into enemy territory and started pushing the darkness back.
- **Look at what He did...**
 - He stepped off a boat onto Gentile soil and ordered a legion of demons out of a man.
 - He healed a woman who had bled for twelve years.
 - He stood over a dead little girl and told her to get up.
- The purpose of Satan is to destroy.
- The power of the Savior is to deliver.
- And today we watched the Savior win — three times, in three arenas, against the three enemies that have ruled humanity since the beginning.

Kingdom of God – God's Redemptive Rule and Reign Through Christ over all Creation

- **Initiated when Jesus came – Awaiting its full expression**
- **Theologians call this: "Already / Not Yet"**

Three Observations about the Already / Not yet Aspect of the Kingdom

1. The Kingdom has a King, and He has already begun to reign.

Matthew 28:18 – *All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.*

Luke 1:33 - And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

- This is not a Kingdom that is coming someday. It has already begun.
- Jesus is not waiting for the throne — He's reigning from it.

Here's something that makes the word "gospel" come alive.

- In the ancient world, when a battle was won, a runner would sprint from the battlefield back to the city gates, and before he even stopped running he would shout the news: "Victory! We have won!"
- That runner was the evangelist — **the one who brings good news**. And the word we translate "gospel" was the word for that announcement: the news of a victory already won
- That's what the gospel is. It's not advice about how to win. It's the declaration that the King has already won. **On the cross He defeated sin. In the tomb He defeated death.** And in Mark 5 He gave us a preview — demons cast out, disease healed, death reversed. The battle is over. The Kingdom has begun.
- And here's the part that should change how you live: the church is the runner. We've been sent back to the city with the news — "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news" (Isaiah 52:7, ESV).
- That's us. We don't run to announce a battle that might be lost. We run to announce a victory that has already been won.

Every miracle in Mark 5 is the act of a King who is already on the job.

Observation # 2 — The darkness is retreating, but the war is not over.

Here's the honest part.

- The demoniac was freed — but demons still rage.
- The woman was healed — but sickness still comes.
- The girl was raised — but death still takes.

The Kingdom has begun, but it is not yet fully expressed.

- That's the tension we live in. That's why we don't just admire Jesus — we enlist.
- The King sent His church out with an order:
- **Mark 16:15 - And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.**
- **Matthew 28:18-19** - And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

You and I are not spectators at the King's campaign. We're soldiers in it.

Observation # 3 — What we saw today is a foretaste of glory to come.

Here's the one I want you to take home.

- The raising of Jairus's daughter is not just a miracle from the past. It's a preview of the resurrection morning.
- **I Corinthians 15:-20-22** - But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

One day the Kingdom will be fully expressed.

- No demons. No disease. No death. Everybody raised. Every tear dried. Every enemy defeated.
- What Jesus did for one little girl in Mark 5, He will one day do for all of creation.
- That's the glory to come — and today, in this chapter, God gave us a foretaste of it.

Call to Action

So here's the question standing in front of you: are you going to watch the Kingdom advance — or are you going to get in the fight?

Next Steps – We believe everyone has a next step of Obedience

- Some are sitting on the sidelines – One foot in the World / One foot in the Church
 - It's like you are playing for both sides. Mon-Sat – World / Sun. for an hour you are Team Jesus.
 - No man can serve two master

TFBC – We exist to equip people to relentless pursue God's Design for their life so that we can bring hope and renewal to every person & every place.

Share your Time, Talent, and Treasure

Go Time – Time is Short – Eternity is long!

The simplest way to get in the fight is to bring someone with you.

- Someone you love is fighting one of those three enemies right now.
- Back in Mark 5:19 – The man from whom Jesus cast out the demons wanted to stay with Jesus.

- **Mark 5:19** - Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you."
- You can be the one who brings them to the place where the King is proclaimed.

That's what our next two events are for.

- **Celebration 250 Alabama** — *one night, one message, the gospel proclaimed.*
- **And the Men's Ministry Beast Feast.** Bring your FRANs — your friends, your relatives, your associates, your neighbors. Bring the ones who need to see that the King has come.

Conclusion:

We began this morning with three enemies.

- Disease. Demons. Death. They're still here — they haven't gone anywhere.

But here's the thing about Observation # 1 – The King has already won!

- The cross was not a defeat – it was a decisive victory
- Sin, broken. The Grave, emptied. The Battle is over, even if the ward is still being felt.

Observation #2 –

- The demoniac was freed, but demons still rage. The woman was healed, but sickness still comes. The little girl was raised, but death still takes people we love.
- We live in the tension of a Kingdom that has begun but is not yet fully here. That tension is real. You feel it in the hospital room. You feel it at the graveside. You feel it when the diagnosis comes back and the medicine stops working.

The Kingdom has begun – Darkness is on the Run.

One day – sooner than we think – the King will come again, and what we saw in Mark 5 will be true for everyone who belongs to Him.

- No more disease. No more demons. No more death. Just glory
- Until that day – The Kings words to Jairus is the Kings' Word for you...

Do not be afraid. Just Believe