

**Don't** you **know people** with a **NARROW VIEW** of **Jesus** Christ ?

I'm **NOT talking** about a **Narrow View AS IN** – **Jesus** is the **ONLY WAY** to heaven – **that's what** the **Entire Bible** says

**I'm talking** about People who **LATCH ON** to **ONE THING**,  
or **ONE EVENT** – or **ONE TYPE** of **scripture** in the Bible

& **then build** their **entire View** of **Jesus** Christ  
on that **ONE Narrow Thing?**

**isn't** it **interesting** that **almost ALWAYS**

the **ONE Thing** that person **LATCHES** onto  
**In some way** – **tends** to **Serve THEIR Own NEEDS**

It **happens** in **churches** all the time – where **Churches** get  
a **NARROW FOCUS** - on **One Thing** about God - or **His Word**

**BUT** – it **ALSO** happens **OUTSIDE the church**  
With **people** who have **SOME knowledge** of the **Bible**

If **they've grown up** with the **10 Commandments**  
maybe they **LATCH ON** to that - & **ignore** everything **else**

If **Caring for the Poor** is their **thing**  
then **that one area** - is **what** they **LATCH onto** in the life of Jesus

I've **seen people** take **one parable**  
& **make** an **entire World View** out of it – **for them, & others**

**Why** do we **tend** to **embrace** these **NARROW VIEWS** of Jesus  
**Focusing** on just one **AREA** - or one **THEME** in the Bible?

**Most Often** – it is **in order** to (*in some way*) **serve our own purposes**

**Which** is – **Exactly** what we **see today** in **Mark CH 1**

**Let's Pray**

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**Today** – We're **going** to see **THREE Separate situations**  
**where** the **people** had a Very **NARROW VIEW** of **Jesus**

& **each time** – it **was** (in some way) to **serve their own Purposes**

& **ONE** of these **Three Events** – involves **THE DISCIPLES**

Who **ALSO MISS** - the **Greater Purpose**  
of **WHO Jesus IS** - & **WHY He CAME**

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**My PRAYER** for us today –  
is that **WE WON'T Do That**

That we **WON'T** put **Jesus** in our **OWN BOX**  
& then **USE HIM** – for our **OWN PURPOSE**

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it all starts today in

**Mark 1:29 (NLT)**

***29 After Jesus left the synagogue (in Capernaum) with James and John, they went to Simon and Andrew's home.***

**Last week – we saw the REAL AUTHORITY of Jesus  
in the Synagogue at Capernaum**

**Both in his Teaching - & over the Demonic Realm**

& today – Right on the heels of that – V.29 says

***Jesus left the synagogue with James and John, & they went to Simon and Andrew's home***

We LOVE this place in Israel – Capernaum is so well-preserved  
the ruins of the synagogue incredible - ***We love to teach there***

& it's only – maybe 150 ft – from the Synagogue  
to the family home of Peter & Andrew

**which is also miraculously well preserved – (always a favorite)**

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& so Jesus – with what will become  
the INNER CIRCLE of Disciples

**takes the short walk over to Peter's house**

for a **Falafel & Hummus Lunch**  
after a busy morning in the Synagogue

**But – when they get there – Peter's Mother in law is sick**

**Mark 1:30 (NLT)**

***30 Now Simon's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a high fever. They told Jesus about her right away.***

**First of all - This is Peter – the supposed 1<sup>st</sup> Pope of the Catholic Church - who's mother-in-law is sick**

**But – there's only 1 way to get a mother-in-law -  
& that's to BE MARRIED . . . (so, *if that's meaningful to you*)**

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**So - Peter's mother-in-law is sick  
& the disciples tell Jesus about her right away**

**& we read in Mark 1:31 (NLT)**

***31 So he (Jesus) went to her bedside, took her by the hand, and helped her sit up. Then the fever left her, and she prepared a meal for them.***

**Now – Peter's Mother-In-Law was NOT - the one with the  
NARROW VIEW of Jesus**

**Those people are on their way**

**This is simply – the Great Compassion of Jesus . . . *He took her by the hand, helped her sit up, & the fever left her***

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**BUT** – some people **DO** see a **NARROW VIEW** here

They **think Jesus** was **hungry**

& Peter's **mother-in-law** was the **cook** – **So . . .**

**But** . . . Jesus **could've "MADE"** his **own lunch**, right?

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the True **NARROW-VIEW** people – **show up** in

**Mark 1:32 (NLT)**

***32 That evening after sunset, many sick and demon-possessed people were brought to Jesus.***

**Talk** about **news spreading** fast

& that's **WITHOUT social media**

This is **Later** - the **SAME Day** that **Jesus**

**healed** the **Demon Possessed** man in the **Synagogue**

& **fortunately** – Jesus **DID** have **some lunch**

**Because** he's **gonna** have a **WILD Evening Svc**

**But** - Because it was **The Sabbath** – the **people**

could **NOT come** out of their **houses** until **after sunset**

& so **again** – Vs.32 says - ***after sunset, they brought many sick and demon-possessed people to Jesus***

**Immediately** the people **STORM Peter's House**

**Where** they **KNEW Jesus** was

**& Mark 1:33 says (NLT)**

***33 The whole town gathered at the door to watch.***

Now – **tell me please**

**HOW many** of these **people**

were **interested** in the **BIGGER PICTURE**

of **WHO Jesus IS** – or **WHAT** He had **Come to DO?**

**I think it's safe to say . . . ZERO**

**This** is – **Having** a **NARROW VIEW** of **Jesus**

& we **can't blame** these **people** – they **were**, or they **had with them**,  
**Sick & Demon Possessed** people

& **THAT** - was **ALL** that was **on their minds**

& we **would've probably** had  
the **same NARROW VIEW** in that **moment**

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**But** – **here's the thing** we've got to **see**

**These people** – and a **Bunch More** like them  
will **continue** to **chase Jesus** around for the **next 3 years**

**& MOST of them will never WIDEN their VIEW of Him !**

**Most** of them will **NEVER** stop **seeking Jesus**  
for **JUST** their **Physical** Needs **at the moment**

***Whether it's Healing, Deliverance, or a Free Lunch***

& **some people** today **Will NEVER**  
**Widen** their **View** of **Jesus Christ**

**beyond seeing him** as the **one**  
who's **supposed** to **meet** all their **current needs**

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**Jesus knew** - that He **knew he would never** see  
**most** of these **people** again

But **still** – **He Healed them**

**Mark 1:34 (NLT)**

***34 So Jesus healed many people who were sick with various diseases, and he cast out many demons. But because the demons knew who he was, he did not allow them to speak.*** (again, we see his Real Authority over the Demonic Realm)

These **people** were receiving **MIRACULOUS HEALING** from Jesus

**BUT** – **Did they** ever **WIDEN THEIR VIEW** of Him ?  
**Did they** ever Get – **THE BIGGER PICTURE** ?

**Sadly** – for **most of them** – it **doesn't seem** like they **did**

**& What WAS - the WIDER VIEW of THIS event ?**

**What WAS the BIGGER PICTURE here?**

Certainly – **Scholars speculate answers** to that **question**

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But – **My Focus today is**

**Do YOU ask that BIGGER PICTURE Question . . . ?**

**When you COME to Jesus – for something you Need?**

**A Healing, or Deliverance, or Lunch**

**DO you ask the WIDER VIEW Question**

***Jesus - How does THIS fit - into your Bigger Plan?***

**& How can I KNOW you Better**

**THRU this Current Need - that I have**

**How can I have a WIDER VIEW ?**

**& How can I SEE the BIGGER PICTURE**

**of what you MIGHT be DOING**

**In the MIDST of My Current NEED?**

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Guys - **If we only come to Jesus – saying,**

***“Fix my stuff, and I’ll be on my way . . .”***

Then **we’ll never learn** to **KNOW HIM** personally

**& we’ll never learn to be PART – of his BIGGER PLAN!**

**Does that ‘Make Sense’?**



## OK – that was the 1<sup>st</sup> NARROW VIEW Group

The Second NARROW VIEW Group  
Is the Disciples themselves

### Mark 1:35 (NLT)

*35 Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray.*

Listen - please –

I could teach on Entire series on this One Vs

& - in fact – We have

It's Called ALONE WITH GOD - & I believe it is  
one of the most important series I've ever taught

& if you look at the Example of Jesus here

You can easily see - that being ALONE WITH GOD  
was incredibly IMPORTANT to HIM as well

If you're interested in knowing WHY this is so important  
Get our "ALONE WITH GOD" series

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But for today – we're looking at the problem  
of us having a NARROW VIEW of Jesus

& We see the NARROW VIEW here  
of Jesus' own Disciples

### Mark 1:36-37 (NLT)

*36 Later Simon (Peter) and the others went out to find him.*

*37 When they found him, they said, "Everyone is looking for you."*

Remember – the Disciples were thinking  
the Messiah would be a Social, Political King (their Narrow View)

just like some people still think today

& they're seeing the Popularity Numbers take off like a Rocket here  
& that's good for the coming campaign

& So - What do you think the Disciples are IMPLYING  
with this line - "Everyone is looking for you."?

Don't you think they're saying

*"Jesus, we just got started yesterday, we're on a ROLL Boss, the people are all BACK today - & they're looking for more of the same –*

*so, let's get back there, & let's get to healin a bunch more people  
cause if you keep this up you're gonna have this whole nation  
wrapped around your finger*

*just keep goin with all that Miracle Stuff - & we're gonna be  
GOLDEN"*

**Then - Mark 1:38 says (NLT)**

***38 But Jesus replied, “We must go on to other towns as well, and I will preach to them, too. That is why I came.”***

***WHOA, Jesus – No – Too Early - We gotta ride the momentum you created here***

***This is your new home town, & these people LOVE YOU***

***You have a chance to build an ARMY of loyal followers here***

***now, let’s get back to giving people what they want – ok, chief ?***

**NO – It’s NOT OK**

**& I can Imagine – Jesus just slowly standing up from the Rock where he’d been Alone with the Father - & just . . . *walking away***

& the disciples are like,

***“Man, what’s he doing? He’s walking away from his 1st big WIN***

***We are gonna have to teach this guy a few things if he’s ever gonna have a Mega-Church !”***

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**& Jesus DOES keep casting out Demons  
& he DOES keep HEALING**

but **NOT** for the **reasons** that the **Disciples** probably **thought**

Jesus HEALS - & He DELIVERS – Out of His COMPASSION –  
Out of his LOVE & his MERCY toward us

**BUT – He does it – AS he is headed toward**

Accomplishing HIS BIGGER Plan - &  
Accomplishing HIS BIGGER Purpose!!

Both IN the World - & in our LIVES

The **Question** today is – Are we **LOOKING** for that?

**& so - Mark 1:39 says (NLT)**

***39 So he traveled throughout the region of Galilee, preaching in the synagogues and casting out demons.***

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Then, finally – our 3<sup>rd</sup> Victim – with a NARROW VIEW of Jesus

**Mark 1:40-41 (NLT)**

***40 A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. “If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean,” he said.***

***41 Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!”***

Guys - Jesus is FILLED with Mercy & Compassion!!

& he Heals & Delivers – out of that Mercy & Compassion

**BUT – that is NOT why Jesus came to earth!**

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**If Jesus didn't stay focused on the WIDER VIEW  
& on the BIGGER Picture – of HIS OWN Plan & Purpose**

**Then this leper would've been healed temporarily  
But he would've been lost for Eternity – *separated from God***

**& so – would you & I**

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**I think – One Big reason - for the NARROW VIEW  
some people have of Jesus**

**Is that Eternity is not BIG ENOUGH in their Minds**

**They're consumed with their own immediate needs  
or what they see around them**

**& Jesus says – I CARE - & I will MOVE in your Life**

**In order to carry you thru this VAPOR  
that is your time on earth**

**BUT – it is NOT the WIDER VIEW – of what I'm Doing  
& It is NOT the BIGGER PLAN or PURPOSE**

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**But – back to the COMPASSION of the Lord – in this Moment**

**Mark 1:42 says (NLT)**

***42 Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed.***

## Praise the Lord – It's Wonderful

But then – Look at the “THEN”

### Mark 1:43-44 (NLT)

**43 Then** (LIT: immediately) ***Jesus sent him on his way with a stern warning:***

**44 “Don’t tell anyone about this. Instead, go to the priest and let him examine you. Take along the offering required in the law of Moses for those who have been healed of leprosy. This will be a public testimony that you have been cleansed.”**

**WHY** would Jesus **STERNLY WARN** this **HEALED MAN**  
to **do exactly** as he **said**?

**Does it REALLY MATTER Why?**

**If** you **KNOW the Lord** Jesus - **AT ALL**  
& he **Miraculously HEALS YOU**

& **then** he **STERNLY WARNS** You  
to **do exactly** what he **says**

**Should you really be ASKING him WHY?**

**Wouldn’t** you **think Obedience** would just **Follow**  
**such** a **Miraculous Healing** ?

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**You would THINK SO**

But – **this guy did** what he **wanted**  
he **did** what **served his own purposes** – *whatever they were*

**Mark 1:45 (NLT)**

***45 But the man went and spread the word, proclaiming to everyone what had happened. As a result, (of this man's Narrow View) large crowds soon surrounded Jesus, and he couldn't publicly enter a town anywhere. He had to stay out in the secluded places, but people from everywhere kept coming to him.***

**let me ask you this**

**Do** you think **THIS GUY** returned  
to **BE PART** of Jesus' **BIGGER PLAN** & **BIGGER PURPOSE?**

**No – I don't think so either**

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In **All three** of these **Events**  
**these people** had a very **NARROW VIEW** of Jesus

**Fortunately** – the **Disciples** – eventually **came around**

**How about YOU?**

**How LONG** will it take **US**  
to **Look PAST** our **current circumstances**  
& **PAST** our **current needs**

& **Really commit** to the Lord –  
to **LOOK** - for the **WIDER VIEW**

of **what** Jesus **might be doing** in our **lives**

To at **LOOK** – for the **BIGGER PICTURE** –  
For the **BIGGER PLAN** & the **BIGGER PURPOSE**

**that** Jesus **IS At Work For** – in our **lives**

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**I pray** that we would **REFUSE**  
to **have** a **NARROW VIEW** of **Jesus** Christ - in our **Lives**

**These** people **MISSED** the **BIGGER picture**

**Because** – they were focused

On their **Own NEEDS** - &

On their **Own NARROW VIEW** of Jesus

& **2000 yrs later** – we **still** see - the **exact same thing**

Let's **let God** – **BE God**

& let's **COMMIT - TO JOIN HIM**

**IN** his **BIGGER PLAN** - & His **BIGGER PURPOSE**

**For this World** - & **For our LIVES**

**Let's Pray**