

- I) **V6-12 INTRO: Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians**
- II) **As we have seen, Jesus just performed a tremendous miracle  
He had healed a man suffering with atrophy in his right hand**
- III) **Even though Jesus was performing incredible works, the Pharisees remained opponents  
It seems that each work that He did only created more antagonism**
- IV) **He healed a paralytic, cleansed a leper and healed a man with a withered hand  
All of these miracles could have softened even the most callused heart**
- V) **You would think that such a miracle would have touched even the hardest of hearts**
- VI) **Instead of joy over such a healing, the response was quite the opposite  
Lu 6:11 They were filled with rage and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus**
- VII) **Their traditions and man-made regulations hardened them against Jesus  
As far as they could see, Jesus was a habitual offender  
He consistently violated their traditions concerning the Sabbath**
- VIII) **Mark has recorded how Jesus consistently performed works of mercy on the Sabbath  
Ch 1:25 He cast out a demon on the Sabbath  
Ch 2 He allowed His disciples to pluck heads of grain on the Sabbath  
Ch 3 He healed a man with a paralyzed hand on the Sabbath**
- IX) **By now Jesus established a pattern of performing works of mercy on the Sabbath**
- X) **V6 The result was the Pharisees began to plan on how they might destroy Him  
A coalition of opposition now forms: The Pharisees plot with the Herodians**
- XI) **The Herodians were a political party that supported Rome  
They were not religious, and formed in order to support the dynasty of Herod the Great**
- XII) **Because they supported Herod, and by extension Rome, they were hated by the people  
These two opposing groups became united in one mutual thing: hatred for Jesus**

**Ps 2:1-2 Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed**

**XIII) The enemy of my enemy is my friend**

**I) The Pharisees hated Jesus because He threatened their religious power  
The Herodians hated Him because He threatened their political power**

**II) They now join together with the desire to destroy Jesus**

**Mt 12:14-15 But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus. Aware of this Jesus withdrew from that place. A large crowd followed Him and He healed all who were ill**

**III) What was His reaction to their plotting to put an end to Him?**

**IV) V7 But Jesus withdrew with His disciples to the sea. And a great multitude from Galilee**

**Jesus knew that His time had not yet arrived, so He went to the Sea of Galilee**

**V) There simply was no need to unnecessarily antagonize**

**Ps 109:3-4 They have also surrounded me with words of hatred and fought against me without a cause. In return for my love they are my accusers, but I give myself to prayer.**

**VI) V7 He withdrew with His disciples to the sea**

**In His ministry, Jesus had many that could be called disciples  
The word Disciples refers to learners; those who attach themselves to a teacher**

**VII) Jesus had many followers, and they could, in general, be referred to as disciples**

**VIII) Not all of them became life-long followers, as some were simply disciples in name only**

**They listened to what He said, and were curious about His miracles**

**IX) The difference between these people and genuine disciples was their commitment**

**Those who were committed to Him and His words were actual disciples  
Jn 8:31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed**

**X) Not every one of them remained in His word, and were simply fair-weather followers**

- XI) An example of this is found in the sixth chapter of the gospel of John  
Jn 6:2 A great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs  
which He performed on those who were diseased  
These people were drawn by His miracles, but not to His message
- XII) John tells us a great multitude gathered, and Jesus saw that they were without  
food  
There were 5,000 men (not including women and children) and Jesus  
fed them
- XIII) After feeding them, we are told that Jesus perceived they would try to make  
Him King
- I) This caused Him to leave the city of Tiberias, and go across the sea to  
Capernaum  
When it was noted that He had gone, a great crowd followed Him to  
Capernaum
- II) While speaking to them, Jesus made it clear that they followed Him for wrong  
reasons  
He told them they sought Him not for His signs, but because He had fed  
them
- III) He then told them that He is the Bread of Life and they must fully partake of  
Him  
This is where the genuineness of their faith was revealed
- IV) After saying this, John lets us know how those listening responded  
Jn 6:66 From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with  
Him no more
- V) Not every listener is a learner and not every professor of faith is a possessor  
of faith  
It is those who stand firm in Jesus to the end who are His genuine  
followers
- VI) Not everyone who claims to be a Christian is actually a genuine believer  
Those who remain faithful to Him no matter what demonstrate that they  
are  
Lu 22:28 You are those who have stood by Me in My trials
- VII) It is from these disciples that Jesus will select His apostles
- VIII) V7-8 Jesus has withdrawn with His disciples to the sea And a great multitude  
from Galilee

- IX) People from all around began to hear of Jesus and began to follow Him  
Notice how Mark uses the words great multitude twice (V7, 8) to emphasize this**
- X) This covers the nation of Israel from north to south and includes parts of Lebanon**
- XI) V8 They heard how many things He was doing, (and) came to Him  
This is the secret of church growth: People hear of all He is doing  
They heard of His miracles and His message, and came to Him**
- XII) V9-11 And He told His disciples that a small boat should be kept ready for Him because of  
There were so many in need that they crowded Him, and could crush Him**
- XIII) This happened often  
Mk 4:1 And again He began to teach by the sea. And a great multitude was gathered to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat in it on the sea; and the whole multitude was on the land facing the sea**
- XIV) How did He react to these great crowds that were showing up: He taught them**
- I) V10 For He healed many so that as many as had afflictions pressed about Him to touch  
He also healed them and delivered them of possession  
In the casting out of demons He was revealing that the kingdom of God was present  
Lu 11:20 If I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.**
- II) V11 And the unclean spirits whenever they saw Him, fell down before Him and cried out  
Have you noticed how many demons were encountered by Jesus**
- III) This gives us insight into the incredible number of demons at work  
They seem to be everywhere, and they are constantly being confronted by Jesus**
- IV) Demons normally worked in secret, but were often unmasked by Jesus  
When in the presence of Jesus, they immediately were revealed  
They would cause the possessed individuals to fall down, and they would cry out**
- V) V11 They said You are the Son of God!**

**They obviously knew who He was, even when human beings didn't**

**VI) V12 But He sternly warned them that they should not make Him known  
He has already done this kind of thing  
Mk 1:34b He...cast out many demons; and He did not allow the demons  
to speak because they knew Him**

**VII) He did not need the impure testimony of demons; His words and works spoke  
for Him**

**VIII) V13-19 And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself  
wanted. And**

**IX) Mark now introduces us to the apostles that Jesus appointed  
These men will become Apostles: they are taken out of the multitude of  
Disciples**

**X) They will be the building blocks that Jesus used to build His church  
Eph 2:19-20 You are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow  
citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on  
the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief  
cornerstone**

**XI) The word apostle speaks of someone who has been sent on an errand, or with  
a message  
The apostle is accountable to his Sender, and carries the authority of  
the Sender**

**XII) When Jesus was on earth He selected twelve men from the larger group of  
disciples  
These men were given the responsibility of leading the church into the  
future**

**I) Many people today wonder if the church still is led by apostles**

**II) Are there modern-day apostles holding the same authority as the original  
apostles?**

**I will take a moment to answer this question**

**III) In scripture, there are certain qualifications that determined if you were an  
apostle**

**When Judas betrayed Jesus, there was a need to replace him  
When deciding who to replace him the qualification of an apostle was  
clearly stated**

**IV) First: He was to have walked with Jesus before He was crucified and**

resurrected

Ac 1:21-22 Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection."

V) Second: He was to have been an eyewitness to Jesus after His resurrection  
1 Co 9:1 (Paul said) Have I not seen Jesus our Lord

VI) Third: He performed miracles  
Ac 2:43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles  
2 Co 12:12 (Speaking of his own credentials) Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds

VII) Fourth: He was inspired by the Spirit to write the scriptures  
2 Pe 3:15-16 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

VIII) Fifth: An apostle was chosen by Jesus, through prayer and the Spirit  
Lu 6:12-13 Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. When it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles  
Ac 9:15 (Concerning Paul) But the Lord said to him (Ananias) Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel

IX) An apostle no longer exists today because none can meet these conditions

X) As we look at them, I will highlight a few things about their calling as apostles

I) In selecting these men Jesus was judging the religious leaders of Israel  
The Sadducees were infected with Greek philosophy and polluted faith  
The Pharisees were legalists who strained at gnats and swallowed camels

II) These religious leaders were respected by many but were leading the people astray

Because of this, Jesus instituted a fresh leadership not polluted by these men

They were new wineskins that would hold the new wine of the Spirit,

and grace

III) These men were unqualified to be Israel's shepherds

In Mt 15:14 Jesus called them blind leaders of the blind

Mt 23:27 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness

IV) Israel's religious leaders needed to be replaced, and Jesus brought in new leaders

He first pursued these men, and then He called them to this ministry

V) He had been focusing His attention on the multitudes, but now He trains the new leaders

What do we glean from this calling?

VI) V13 First: Their calling was the result of Jesus praying

Lu 6:12 Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. When it was day

VII) Second: They did not strive to become leaders, they were chosen to be

Mark said that Jesus called to Him those He Himself wanted

Jn 15:16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

VIII) V14 Third: He appointed twelve that they might be with Him

This would give them personal and first-hand knowledge of Him and His teachings

Ac 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

IX) Jesus mentored them in the ways of God, revealing Himself in clear ways to them

He did not entrust Himself to all men, but He did entrust Himself to these men

Lu 10: 23-24 Then He turned to His disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see; for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it."

I) Fourth: He intended to equip them in order that He might send them

II) These men were being trained to preach the message of redemption, to the whole world

The only plan the Lord has for reaching the world is for those who know Him to witness

Mt 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

III) The responsibility of declaring this message moves us to share His love with others

Jesus equipped them with the message, and at Pentecost gave them the power

We have the same message, and we have the same power

IV) V14-15 With this in mind, Mark tells us that He sent them out to preach They also were empowered to perform healings and to deliver the demonized

V) They were sent out to preach and to have power to heal sicknesses and cast out demons

None of them were formally trained rabbis, but each one was specially prepared

They partook in the power of God's Kingdom and were used to heal and deliver

VI) This is what Jesus was doing, and they would work alongside of Him

VII) At this point we get an introduction to the men that Jesus chose Some of them we have already been introduced to, and others are now identified

VIII) V16-20 Simon to whom He gave the name Peter; James the son of Zebedee and John the

IX) Some of these names are very familiar to us Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Matthew, Thomas, and Judas Iscariot

X) Others are not: Bartholomew, James of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite

Simon the Cananite is also known as Simon the Zealot

XI) He was an anti-Rome revolutionary, yet he worked alongside of Matthew This by itself reveals the power of Jesus and His ability to bring such people together



XII) Simon Peter always heads the list, and Judas always ends it  
Notice how Judas is referred to as the one who betrayed Him

XIII) V17 refers to James and John as Sons of Thunder  
There is more than one way to look at this nickname  
Some believe that the name speaks of them speaking for God

I) A son of Thunder could be another way of speaking of God's voice, like thunder  
Job 40:9 Do you have an arm like God and can you thunder with a voice like His?  
2 Sa 22:14 The Lord thundered from heaven and the Most High uttered His voice

II) Sons of Thunder more likely speaks of the fact that they were extremely passionate!

III) Their love for and loyalty to Jesus motivated them to service to and defense of Him

Lu 9:51-56 It came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him. But they did not receive Him because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem. And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?" But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them." And they went to another village.

IV) Briefly: Though their reaction was extreme, it gives us insight into the men God uses  
These men had a passion and intensity for Jesus that needed to be directed properly

V) As you read scripture, you will discover that this zeal was part of every great believer  
Moses saw injustice and rose in opposition to it, defending one of his fellow Israelites

VI) Stephen the martyr made mention of this, and supplied the reason behind it  
Ac 7:24-25 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian: for he supposed his brethren would have understood how that *God by his hand would deliver them*: but they understood not

VII) David was a mighty warrior, used by God to lead the nation

**When he heard Goliath taunt the Jews, his indignation boiled over  
1 Sa 17:26 David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done  
for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is  
this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"**

**Ps 144:1 Praise be to the LORD my Rock, who trains my hands for war,  
my fingers for battle.**

**VIII) Elijah: You are the troubler of Israel!**

**Nehemiah: slapped people and pulled their beards**

**Simon was a Zealot, a member of the Zealots, a political movement in 1st-  
century, Second Temple Judaism which sought to incite the people of Judea to rebel  
against the Romans and expel them from Israel by force of arms**

**I) Peter: Cut off Malchus' ear his attempt to defend and protect Jesus  
Paul spoke to the High Priest and told him: God will smite you!**

**II) Jesus revealed indignation in His first cleansing of the temple (Jn 2:13-17)  
When He did this, His disciples remembered a scripture in the psalms  
Ps 69:9 zeal for your house consumes me...**

**III) God isn't looking for angry, macho men but for determined and disciplined  
men of God**

**There is a proper time for letting our thoughts be known**

**Eccl 3:7b (There is) a time to be silent and a time to speak**

**IV) Without spending too much time on this, it is time for the church to  
speak up**

**Without giving a political speech allow me to speak as a sentry**

**V) We have gone through much pain as a country and as a state**

**We have gone through the worst lockdown of any state**

**Thousands of businesses have closed down, jobs lost and people  
are leaving California**

**We have the second highest unemployment in the nation**

**We have had an incredible spike in crime, with thousands of  
criminals released**

**We have a crisis of homelessness**

**We have the highest taxes in the nation (40-50% higher than other  
states)**

**We have the second highest prices for gasoline**

**Our forests have been mismanaged, wildfires are out of control**

**We are going through droughts and blackouts, with no plans for  
dams**

**Schools have been closed and there have been moves to involuntarily mask children**

**Mandatory vaccines have cost people jobs**

**VI) As for our national government, we have failed our American citizens and allies**

**Marie and I have voted and I encourage you to do the same**

**We live in a country where we can vote, so I say: let's vote the poor leaders out**

**VII) What made it possible for such different personalities to be united**

**They loved Jesus and put aside their prejudices and opinions and learned from Him**

**VIII) The Pharisees united with the Herodians through hate for Jesus and a rejection of Him**

**These men united through a love for Jesus and a reception of Him**

**Mt 11:28-30 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."**