



Sermon Title: The One We Follow

Sermon Title: All Authority

Date: 6/19/2022

Mark 1:21- 28

Big Idea: Follow the one who has ultimate authority

In this passage, we see two areas where Jesus put His authority on display.

PT 1 AUTHORITY IN PROCLAIMING TRUTH

Mark 1:21-22

Mark doesn't tell us the exact details of what Jesus taught in the synagogue - just that when he taught the people were amazed because he taught them as one who had authority. The word authority here means His words had power, weight, and ruling dominion. He spoke with the authority as if He were in charge and what He said was truth. Mark is very concise in his writing, and he doesn't tell us specifically what Jesus taught about here, but we can get an idea by looking at a few verses earlier. **Mark 1:14b-15**

From His other teachings recorded in the gospels, We know that He brought new teachings and spoke about the need for repentance and the reality of hell. Jesus taught what God's standard is - that sin is not just what you do with your body but what you think in your mind.

Matthew chapter 11, Jesus highlights the fact that Capernaum remained an unrepentant town despite them witnessing His miracles. **Matthew 11:23-24**

PT 2 AUTHORITY OVER SPIRITUAL FORCES

Mark 1:23-28

That day in the synagogue the light of Jesus exposed a demon hiding in the darkness. This demon inhabiting this man recognized who Jesus was, and it shrieked out in terror because light had come that day and exposed the kingdom of darkness. The good news that Jesus preaches is bad news for all agents of Satan. That's what demons are - agents of Satan who are looking to control and stop unbelievers from coming to faith in Jesus and to lead

believers to the point where their faith is challenged. The apostle Paul wrote about the reality of this struggle in [Ephesians 6:12](#).

Paul is describing different rankings of spiritual beings here. We battle what we can see as well as what we can't see – that is why we need to follow Jesus – the one who has authority over everything.

It is interesting to note that when the demons speak, they know who Jesus is and what His authority is, and what is in store for them in the future. Jesus' disciples didn't truly know who Jesus was or what His mission and purpose were, but the demons did.

Then Jesus says, “be quiet” – This is a forceful command for the demon not to speak. At that time if you could get your adversary to reveal his name during a power struggle, it was like an act of submission. The terrified demon tries one last attempt here to get rid of Jesus. It skips the process of getting Jesus to say His own name and hopes if it reveals Jesus' name, it would be a sign of dominance, and Jesus would leave. There are other recorded accounts of demons attempting this [Mark 3:11](#), [Matthew 8:29](#)

This demon says, “what do you want with us?” It is saying what are you doing here? Get out of here- leave us alone. This demon knew that with the arrival of Jesus, their judgment was certain. [James 2:19](#)

Demons know what is in store for them - they also know the authority that Jesus has. Jesus gave a command to the demon, and it had to obey.

It is important to strike a healthy balance when it comes to being aware of potential demonic activity around you. It is necessary to be aware that demons are real, yet not to become obsessed and fixated on potential demonic activity around you –

Rather than focus on demonic activity, focus on the one who has authority over them. In [Matthew 28](#) Jesus said All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Jesus is saying He can do things no one else can do because He alone is worthy.

In [Revelation 5:2-5](#) we see a scroll that no one can open. The scroll represents God's judgment and salvation, and no one can open it. Then Jesus walks in and takes it and opens it because He is the only one who is worthy the only one with all authority. And the rest of the book of Revelation, we see Him pouring out both judgment and salvation upon the earth.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Do you think demonic activity occurs in the world today? How can Christians determine whether an adverse event is the result of demonic activity or the consequence of living in a fallen world?**
- **Jesus said all authority had been given to Him. Is that important for you to know? Why or why not?**
- **The people in Capernaum heard Jesus' teaching and saw His miracles, yet they rejected Him as savior. Does it surprise you that people today choose to reject Jesus? What is the main reason that people throughout time have rejected Jesus?**