

Mark 1:16-45 – 4 April 2021 – Easter Service

“The Compelling Authority of Jesus Christ”

Introduction

*We opened the Gospel of Mark last time with a look at Mark’s perspective on Jesus the Christ

Mark emphasizes Jesus the servant w/o genealogy

He sees the One who came to offer His life as the innocent blood paying for the guilt of the world

*Jesus didn’t ultimately come...

to deliver new doctrine (although He did)

to deal with deceivers (although He did)

to destroy demons (although He did)

...He ultimately came...to die... and be the Deliverer

He already proclaimed, proved and preached in vs 1-15 thru Baptism, Temptation and teaching repentance that He has union w/ God the Father

Now He begins to *demonstrate* the power and authority that union with the Father brings

Today we'll look at 4 aspects of the power & authority that Jesus has b/c of relation w/ God the Father

1st Aspect of Jesus' authority is that He had the power to call people to a purpose (Vs 16-20)

Read Vs 16-18

1. Jesus relates on the physical plane to talk about the spiritual plane
2. John 1 & 4 records previous encounters
 - a. His call had an authority of purpose to them
 - b. Jesus gives us spiritual purpose beyond earthly
3. Who's gonna do the work: "I will make you..."
 - a. They believed Jesus could give them purpose
 - b. All they need do is.... follow Him

Read Vs 19-20

1. James & John even left father to follow Jesus
2. Jesus would say to them, "I'll make you mender in the Kingdom of God". (Read Eph 4:12)

2nd Aspect of Jesus' authority is that He had the power to teach people without timidity (Vs 21-22)

Read Vs 21-22

1. Jesus taught as the source w/ confidence and didn't just quote other people's opinions
 - a. There was times Jesus quoted the written Word of God – “Spirit of the Lord is upon...”
 - b. There was times Jesus spoke new Words as God Himself – “You've heard it said...but I...”
 - c. But Jesus never just quoted other teachers!
2. Scribes would just quote from their fav Rabbi
 - a. They let the commentators do their leg work and then just trusted them.
 - b. There are 2 types of church small groups
 - i. Spirit-filled Bible teacher led or facilitator
 - ii. If facilitator led – can go in many directions good or bad & any strong personality can take over
3. Read Jer 23:28-29 - All that Jesus said was spoken w/ perfect truth and the power to influence

3rd Aspect of Jesus' authority is that He had the power to deal with demons & disease (Vs 23-34)

Read Vs 23-28

1. Consider the demon-possessed man
 - a. He came to Sabbath service every Saturday
 - b. Still happens today—many people possessed of a devil come to church every Sunday
 - c. There are many ways to open yourself up to being possessed of a devil, but only One [Jesus] has the power to rid it out of your life
2. Consider the demon
 - a. He knew Jesus and feared His power
 - b. Many Christians don't see as clearly as demons do to fear and reverence God
3. Consider Jesus
 - a. Wasn't concerned w/ making a show of power. Just wanted God's timing & will fulfilled
4. Consider the crowd watching
 - a. Found He had authority over spiritual realm

Read Vs 29-31

1. He stood over her and touched her hand and Luke tells us He rebuked the fever
2. Jesus, the Creator of all has the power to change the effects of sin at any moment.
3. Now, many people are mistakenly looking for the way to heal, instead of the One who heals.
 - a. The authority isn't in the method but the man
 - b. The power isn't in a way but in the One
4. Read Psm 103:1-3 – “Bless the Lord O my...”

Read Vs 32-34

1. Many want to argue if an illness is an earthly disease or a spiritual problem
 - a. JESUS IS THE ANSWER TO BOTH THE PHYSICAL AND THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS
2. Day is coming when all those with sick will need to decide if they see the need for not just the physical fix but also the spiritual fix.
 - a. Read John 6:26-27 – He did phy to lead to spir

4th Aspect of Jesus' authority is that He had the power to bring release and resurrection (Vs 35-45)

Read Vs 35

1. Jesus recharged b/c of relation w/ the Father
2. This was the energy that kept Him filled
3. Jesus didn't have to guess at what the will of God was to portray it to others.
 - a. He stayed in union w/ the Father
 - b. He lived w/ power b/c He stayed plugged in to the very source of power and authority!

Read Vs 36-38

1. Jesus came to preach good news of Kingdom
 - a. Read Matt 18:3 – By His resurrected life we can be born into the Kingdom of God
 - b. Healing is just a by-product
 - i. By-product of His great compassion
 - ii. By-product to prove that He is Messiah!
2. His healings give you a reason to listen to Him
 - a. Listening to Him points to His death for your life

Read Vs 39-44

1. Leprosy is the primary Biblical picture of sin
 - a. They were forced to live apart from the rest
 - b. Leprosy is incurable apart from a divine work
2. Why'd Jesus tell this healed man to go to priest?
 - a. Lev 14 describe the ritual to perform in the even of a leper being healed!
 - b. This former leper showing up to the priest would have been quite a big shock to the priest
3. What is the ritual to remember the cleansing?
 - a. Turn to Lev 14:1-7
 - b. Cedar wood—the cross, Scarlet—the blood
 - c. Hyssop – to apply the blood
 - d. Earthen vessel – human body for God
 - e. Running water – the Holy Spirit
 - f. 2 birds – b/c couldn't do actual resurrection
 - g. Open Field – the world
4. Even healings are to point people to message of salvation & life from the dead thru Jesus Christ!

Read Vs 45

1. There's an element of timing to every interaction w/ Jesus. His timing is right and best.

Conclusion

So the existence of the Kingdom of God is beginning to spread like wildfire b/c of the power of Jesus

- 1. Jesus had power to call people to a purpose**
 - a. Living for the earthly is futile
 - b. Jesus offers you a life of eternal purpose
- 2. Jesus had power to teach people w/o timidity**
 - a. He spoke the perfect Word of God
 - b. That's what changes lives; not opinions
- 3. Jesus had power to deal w/ demons & disease**
 - a. He showed authority over the earthly & the spiritual realm...what are you facing today?
- 4. Jesus had power to bring release & resurrection**
 - a. He has the authority to cure the incurable
 - b. He has come to bring you a new life & that more abundantly! Resurrected from the dead!