

Mark 3:20 Then the multitude came together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread. 21 But when His own people heard about this, they went out to lay hold of Him, for they said, "He is out of His mind."

22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebub," and, "By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons."

23 So He called them to Himself and said to them in parables: "How can Satan cast out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan has risen up against himself, and is divided, he cannot stand, but has an end. 27 No one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. And then he will plunder his house.

28 "Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; 29 but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation"— 30 because they said, "He has an unclean spirit."

31 Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him. 32 And a multitude was sitting around Him; and they said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are outside seeking You."

33 But He answered them, saying, "Who is My mother, or My brothers?" 34 And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! 35 For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother."

Mark 3:20 Then the multitude came together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread.

Jesus and all of the people following returned to Capernaum. The crowds had reached such capacity there was neither time nor space enough for people to eat.

21 But when His own people heard about this, they went out to lay hold of Him, for they said, "He is out of His mind."

Jesus earthly family through Mary and Joseph - after Jesus they had sons and daughters. Word got to them what Jesus was saying and doing, and their conclusion was that Jesus lost his mind. This would be incredibly embarrassing for them, so they came to bind him up and take him home.

The brothers of Jesus didn't believe in Him until after His resurrection, and during His earthly ministry they prodded Him to prove Himself (John 7:3-5).

22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebub," and, "By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons."

Jesus; he has come to the attention of the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem. They acknowledge his undeniable powers but label them as satanic.

Beelzebub means "master of the house" or Dung God and refers to Satan. The accusation that Jesus (the real "master of all") was really Satan is incredibly twisted. Saying He has Beelzebub, indicates a satanic possession. Jesus was demonstrating serious power.

23 So He called them to Himself and said to them in parables: "How can Satan cast out Satan?"

24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan has risen up against himself, and is divided, he cannot stand, but has an end.

Jesus tells the scribes - come over here (authority)-I think the sea of people parted, and they did what he said - and they must have been flummoxed - beside themselves

Think about this for a moment boys - Satan - murderer and father of lies John 8:44 - comes to rob, steal, kill and destroy. (John 10:10) author of confusion, disintegration, darkness - Lord over the kingdom and power of darkness - BTW - Jesus in John 8, said they - the scribes and Pharisees were of their father the devil - accomplishing the same effect.

What I was casting out of those people was obviously having a destructive effect on their life, a negative effect - these people weren't flourishing - the demons were connected to Satan's power, not God's power - God's power is restorative, healing, cleansing. This isn't some sort of Satanic - demonic civil war.

A general in battle doesn't attack his own troops if he is trying to win the war. The troops start fighting each other, the battle is lost.

27 No one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. And then he will plunder his house.

Jesus hasn't been doing the devils works - he has been undoing it. He is plundering the house of Satan. And to do that Jesus is flexing his divine muscles by telling them, I'm silencing, binding, and making a spectacle of Satan with every healing, every exorcism, and every teaching (with authority).

Just because Jesus came meek and mild, doesn't mean he wasn't a Lion!! He wasn't an almighty King.

Mar 10:45 - "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

The Gospel of Mark - right from the get go, presents Jesus as God - King of the Universe - that is why he had to explain - He didn't come to be served - though you should be thinking that because He is the King of Kings - He is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah

The healings the exorcisms - are just Jesus playing games when it comes to plundering Satan's goods.

The ultimate plunder that Jesus will take away from Satan, to all who will receive the gift of His righteousness, the forgiveness of all sin and the perfection of Jesus put on your account - the plunder is you.

1 John 5:18 ... he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. 19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

... to give His life a ransom for many.” He also came as the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world - by being the substitute sacrifice for all mankind.

28 “Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; 29 but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation”—

John 16:8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

To blaspheme the Holy Spirit is to reject God’s truth about you, Jesus, and the Gospel. Without which there is no forgiveness of sins, and you remain in eternal condemnation. Eternally unacceptable and rejecting of God.

1 John 5:12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

30 because they said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

Do you hear what I am saying - don’t miss it - it could cost you your life in Heaven - Life forever with me - don’t miss it, that is why I called you over here - what you are observing is not an unclean spirit - it is the Holy Spirit - the Divine Spirit - the God Spirit - the Almighty Spirit - don’t miss it, don’t reject the HS - you reject the only way of salvation.

31 Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him. 32 And a multitude was sitting around Him; and they said to Him, “Look, Your mother and Your brothers are outside seeking You.”

Thought they were going to tie Jesus up and haul him back home, and there were so many people they couldn’t even get close to Jesus - they had to play telephone to get the message to him that they were there.

33 But He answered them, saying, “Who is My mother, or My brothers?” 34 And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, “Here are My mother and My brothers! 35 For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother.”

Jesus’ response to his family seeking to remove him, is look at these people circled around me in a position to learn of me, those whose hearts are open to healing, sick and needy.

John 6:29 Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.”

John 6:40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Jesus lived in perfect submission to the will of God the Father, family members have the same Father.

1 John 5:1 1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

The religious leaders were just owned by Jesus, and now Jesus gives us more insight that what He is going to do is build His kingdom, by plundering family from being a captive of the enemy -

Gal 4:6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

Rom 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

Spirit we cry out Abba Father - born of the spirit - not blaspheming the Spirit - relational not religious.

Theories about Jesus: 1. His family thought He was a lunatic, crazy, and lost his mind. 2. The Scribes thought he was possessed by the father of lies, or a liar, a fraud, a sham. Two thousand years of Jesus transforming lives makes it really hard to swallow that he was a lunatic or liar.

But we humans are pretty slippery, and so the modern theory is that Jesus was a great teacher of love and peace, and the claims of deity, and the miracles and the resurrection, those are all legend, stories that evolved over time about Jesus.

Three quick reasons why this can't be true - 1. Closeness 2. Counterproductive 3. Clarity

Closeness - Paul's writings which included Jesus deity, were written 15-20 years after His resurrection. Paul even said that at one time Jesus revealed himself to 500 people (1 Cor 15), many of which are still alive, go talk to them about Jesus, they are eyewitnesses. The Gospels were all written within the lifetime of people who personally experienced (eyewitnesses) Jesus.

Counterproductive - James and Jude become church leaders, in this account they are there to arrest their brother. This makes the early church leaders look bad. Do you know how many places in the Gospels and Acts, and even in the epistles that all the early apostles look like jerks and traitors? It's everywhere.

Not only that, if you were trying to launch a new religion by creating a legend about Jesus, in that day and time, in that culture you would never give women so much air time (prominence), especially to be the first to see Jesus resurrected.

Clarity - There are too many non essential details in the Gospels to be legend. In Mark 4, it says "38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion." Why is that detail in there. Because it was true.

The concept of realistic narrative fiction didn't come into existence until the last 200 years. The Gospels are not fiction, they are news reporting.

C.S. Lewis - "I have been reading poems, romances, vision literature, legends, and myths all my life. I know what they're like. None of them are like the gospels. Of the gospel texts there are only two possible views. Either this is historical reporting, or else some unknown ancient writer, without known predecessors or successors, suddenly anticipated the whole technique of modern novelistic, realistic narrative 2,000 years ahead of when it happened. The reader who doesn't see this has simply not learned to read."

Who is Jesus really, from his own lips, and we often miss this because we are so drawn to the negative we miss the positive. In other words, the only unforgivable sin freaks us out so much, we don't get amped that Jesus says He is the one that is stronger than the strong man, and binds him up and takes his stuff.

I know I am repeating myself, but I want to end on this because it helps us understand that the Good news is that we have a hero who loves us, and is mighty to save.

Jesus said that binding the strong man was a parable or a metaphor, and the picture is that Jesus likens this world to a castle. This evil prince, this strong man, this warlord, in a sense, has a castle, and in it there are all sorts of prisoners. That's us, because this world is in bondage. We're in bondage to sin and to death and to evil forces.

Jesus has the audacity to say. I am the hero that will be a savior to the captives of the castle, the prisoners of the prince of darkness. This world needs way more than a teacher of love and peace.

This world needs a hero to take action to achieve love and peace. Before being our teacher, we need Jesus to be our hero, our rescuer, our redeemer, our deliverer. Now we begin to tap into HOPE.

Remember in Gen 3:15 - Paradise was lost, and the curse has come. God speaks to the serpent a prophecy, the enemy, the evil one and says "A mightier One than you will come and crush your head. You've triumphed for a moment, but a mightier One than you will come and will plunder you and will take over your kingdom and liberate your captives and will renew the face of the earth."

The psalms continue with prophecy, "This divine Warrior, this Prince, this King who will come and defeat the evil forces and break the spell that binds us will be the Lord himself. He will come, and the winds will be his chariots. The trees of the wood will sing for joy when he comes and liberates the earth."

Jesus is saying I am that mightier one, I am the warrior, I am going to crush the Serpent's head. I'm going to bind the strong man. I'm going to free humanity, and heal the world.

Jesus is the mighty One who has come, and in preaching and in healing and in exorcism he is defeating, he is showing he is stronger than Satan.

He is stronger than the force of this world. He raises people from the dead. He's stronger than death.

He forgives people's sins. He's stronger than their evil. He touches the leper. He feeds people. He's stronger than the forces of evil in this world, and yet when he gets to the end of his life, the disciples see him bound. Why?

The only way for us to be accepted, adopted, and adored by God, was for Jesus to take our place, the place of the sinner, the rebel, the blasphemer and be rejected, disowned, and despised.

Ultimate love and strength was demonstrated by our Hero and Savior Jesus by laying down His life in order to pay the penalty for our sins. Therefore someday when He comes to put all evil to an end, it won't include the rescued.