

The Gospel of Mark

Mark 3:19-35 – December 28, 2025

Dangerous Waters of Denial

From a crushing crowd to a crowded home

Intensity & Intervention (19-21)

The intensity of Jesus' life had become unimaginable.

Go back, just a year or so...

- 30 years old
- Firstborn of at least 7 children and Mary
- Stable or even successful carpentry business
- Now wandering through the wilderness
- Pharisees plotting His destruction
- Disciples are a bit of a ragtag group
- Almost getting crushed by the crowd
- And now, things are so intense that they are often missing meals

And so (vs. 21) Nothing like a little family intervention

They went to lay hold of Him, "He is out of His mind."

John 7:5 For even His brothers did not believe in Him.

But when Jesus' family tracks Him down, it's a full house and a controversial scene.

& Validation (22-27)

Casting out a demon in the home they are now in (*Matthew 12:22-24*)

Leave it to the self-righteous (leaven) to give Satan credit for God's work.

If you can't deny the power, you try to give credit to someone else. Just not God.

The accusation (2x)

Beelzebub: Flies, Dung, Phoenician God of decay – oversaw the work of demons.

Direct connection to the Devil himself.

Ephesians 2:1-2 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

John 8:44b When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

2 Corinthians 4:4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded...

Matthew 13:19 the wicked one...

1. He (Jesus) is possessed by B.
2. He (Jesus) is empowered by B.

To accuse Jesus, The Light of the world, that he was under the sway and influence and mastery of the filth and stench of the devil.

To tell the light of the world that He was operating in the powers of darkness.

Question: How can Satan cast out Satan?

Three Parables – stories that to the arrogant sound like stories, but to the humble and hungry, teach deep, eternal truths about the unending kingdom of God.

1. Kingdom – The devil has one
2. House – (Form of worship & ideas)

CANNOT STAND: able, capable, powerful, (Stay put, find solid ground, to keep his or her place, to establish something, “find your footing.”)

Ephesians 6:11-13 (13 on the screen)

Are you standing against the wiles of the devil? Having done ALL
(Kids – Friends – Marriage – Culture – What’s Next???)

3. Strong Man (*Satan may be a prince, but Jesus is THE King*)

THE STRONG MAN

The Lord is taking back the ground that Satan had gained
Let’s take back ground the devil has won, weapons

- Prayer
- Love
- Truth
- Grace
- Forgiveness
- Breastplate of Righteousness

Romans 13:3-4 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

Waters of Denial (28-30)

Blaspheme the Holy Spirit:
To act arrogantly against God.
To speak against the Holy Spirit.

John 16:8 “And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:”

- The Words of Jesus and the miracle-working power of the Holy Spirit
- *If you reject even this, what hope is there?*
- *The Word and the Power of God Himself... if you reject that, there is nothing else that could ever get you to change your mind.*

Direct Insight: In the house with Jesus

Indirect Insight: In the now with Jesus

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Acts 7:51 “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.

Assuredly: Verily, truly... doubling down, you may have doubted what I have said thus far, but DO NOT MISS THIS!!!

- All sins
- Whatever blasphemies

But not blasphemies against the Holy Spirit

Is subject: Under obligation to the tribunal and punishment imposed.

Threatening vs. Warning

Eternal condemnation:

Quiet Conviction but constant rejection

Romans: Seared with the iron and never thought about it again.

Your getting real close to awakening the wrath of a gracious God

Patience does not equal ignorance (He knows)

Compassion does not equal carelessness (He cares deeply and eternally)

Liar – Lunatic - Lord - Let's not try and be politically correct. Call it how you see it.

Accusation – Validation – Unification

- Thicker Than Blood (31-35)

Fine print disclaimer:

- Not permission to dishonor mother or father, brother or sister
- Kingdom over kids

I know you believe it, but do you believe it?

Here they are at the crowded home

Sent to Him, called to Him, even the crowd is telling Him.

Jesus brothers and even His mom.

James - Joses (Joseph) - Simon - Jude - 2+ sisters

Sometimes our priorities will not be understood.

NOT easy believism

Whoever does the will of My Father

Will: *thelēma* (They – Lima) What one wishes or has determined shall be done.

Caesar – thumbs up or thumbs down

1 Peter 4:3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles – when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.

Matthew 6:10 *Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

Matthew 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

Matthew 26:42 *Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”*

John 9:31 “Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.

Acts 21:14 So when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, “The will of the Lord be done.”

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Ephesians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God,

Ephesians 1:5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Ephesians 5:17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 6:6 not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,

1 Peter 2:15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men

Colossians 1:9 – 1 Thessalonians 4:3 & 5:18

Matthew 6:10 *Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

Are we living here in a way we will be proud of there?

- **What does the Lord think about your plan?**
- **Does it please the Lord?**

Saved people take on saved lives

James 2:17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

When you look at your life, is there evidence of your salvation?

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified (tested and found fake/false/an imposter).

Not perfect, but present