

Follow: The Sovereign Servant!

Intro:

- [Q] Well I wonder have you ever been stunned by someone or something?
I mean ... utterly amazed by the beauty and brilliance of something you laid eyes on?
- [Image] E.g., I'll never forget 1 of the first times I laid eyes on my wife Carrie ... at Stonebriar Community Church ☺
When I saw her that day – I couldn't stop looking at her ☺ – I was stunned!
- [Need] When's the last time you were stunned by Jesus?
I mean ... utterly amazed by the beauty and brilliance of Jesus? In a way that utterly surpasses being stunned by anyone or anything else in all your life?
- [Context] Mark is writing to Christians in Rome & just wants them to see Jesus – he knows if they do they'll be stunned!

Mark 1–8 – all about seeing the person of Jesus
Sight = important to Mark / in Mark 8 progressive healing of blind man before Peter's confession – can you see?
- [Subject] And in our passage today, Mark wants you see Jesus is 2 things (SUPREME + SERVANT) THE SOVEREIGN SERVANT! He reigns supreme! And he stoops to serve!
Stunning in Sovereignty / Stunning Servanthood
- [Text] Turn with me to Mark 1:21-39
- [Preview] Watch out for all ways Jesus is Sovereign & ways he is a servant
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Contextual Observations:

- 1 Day – this all happens on 1 [Sabbath] day
- Discipleship Day – verses immediately prior indicate he takes his newly chosen disciples with him (wants them to see)
- Stunning Day – Sovereignty Seasoned with Servanthood (1:21-31) / Servanthood Seasoned with Sovereignty [1:32-end]

I. Stunning Supremacy + Sovereignty (Seasoned with Servanthood)

- 'Sovereignty' = He is 'Pre-eminent, [the] Principal, Chief, Supreme' ... To Have 'Dominion, Rule, Authority'
- (i) Position – Seated Above All / (ii) Power – Ability to Accomplish All (within his will)
- (a) Sovereign Authority In His Teaching of The Scriptures/ Reigns Supreme Over the Scribes & Most Brilliant of Human Teachers (v21-22) When he speaks from the Scriptures He Speaks with Sovereign Authority & Reigns Supreme Over All the Scribes & Most Brilliant of Human Teachers
 - Immediately (v21)
 - Sabbath, Synagogue
 - Speaks – engage in discourse, content = 1:15 – kingdom = rule
 - Stuns – struck with shock & awe
 - authority = when used in LXX & Gospels – a Pre-eminent term most often associated with supernatural power, ability and rulership
 - scribes & experts in law – educated, experts, enlightened, engage in amassing human wisdom – Jesus blows them out of the water
 - Col 2:3 – In Him is hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge
 - E.g., Harvard Building – 'Man is the Summit of the Universe' / 'Oh Lord our Lord, How Majestic is Your Name in All the Earth ... What is Man That Thou Are Mindful of Him?'
 - MTR – Do you worship him for his wisdom? Insight? Truth? Word? Plans & Purposes? Will & Ways?
- (b) Sovereign Authority Over Satan & Reigns Supreme Over All the Powers of Hell (v23-28)
 - Immediately (v23)
 - Spirit – unclean / impure = always evil & satanic in Mark
 - Screams – 'what do you want with us?' Heb. Idiom = what on earth do we have in common?
 - Strategic Battle – leave us alone! I SEE YOU – NET = to see, to perceive with the eyes!

- Scared – have you come to destroy (ruin) us? 1 demon speaks on behalf of all – thinks is judge. day!
- Speaks – ‘Be quiet’ – lit. in Greek = ‘be muzzled’ – e.g. Mentioned before time kids wanted dog
- Sets Free – Stunning Sovereignty Over Satan & All the Powers of Hell
- E.g., Linda Martin – story of a lady who now a Christian but used to witch – couldn’t get kids – power of the name of JC!
- (c) Sovereign Authority Over / Reigns Supreme Over Sickness, Strongholds & Anything That Would Seek to Rob Humanity of Life in All Its Fullness (v29-31)
 - Immediately
 - Simon’s Mother in Law – house – just a stone’s throw from synagogue – Jesus the ultimate servant
 - Sick with fever – a high fever according to Luke / Slammed (hurled – according to Matt) on bed
 - She can’t get to the Son of God / The Son of God gets to her
 - Stunning Authority Over Sickness – one touch
 - Servant – NET Bible = gently touched her
 - E.g. Words of ‘You Reign Above It all’ – You Reign Above It all, You Reign Above It all, Over the Universe, And Over Every Heart, There Is No Higher Name, Jesus You Reign Above It All

II. Stunning Servanthood & Submission (Seasoned with Sovereignty) (v32-39)

- Sunset on the Sabbath – as soon as they could get to Jesus, Jews unable to work or travel on Sabbath
- Started & Kept Bringing – brought is in the imperfect – kept bringing
- Sick – all the sick – word means miserably sick and struggling
- Strongholds – all the demon possessed
- Silences the demons – the Messianic Secret – he’s on his father’s timetable, work to be done pre cross
- Serves Them ½ the Night
- Shattered / Exhausted
- Stunning Servanthood of his Father
 - Very early in the morning – 4th Roman watch (between 3-6am)
 - While it was still dark – still exceedingly nocturnal (probably 3-4am)
 - Got Up (to rise to meet someone)
 - Solitary Place – same word for wilderness – same type of place – no distractions
 - Submits – Prays – Prostrate on all 4’s – on his face
 - Sets His Heart on Serving Father & Living For His Name not His Own Fame

III. Look at Jesus – He’s Your Stunning Sovereign Servant! [HP]

- i. E.g. Look at Him 1 more time – who He is – what He’s done – and Follow Him for He’s Your Stunning Sovereign Servant – Watch This Video.

FOLLOW

JESUS THROUGH THE BOOK OF MARK

PART 1: FOLLOW THE PERSON OF JESUS



21 They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. 22 The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. 23 Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, 24 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!' 25 'Be quiet!' said Jesus sternly. 'Come out of him!' 26 The evil spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. 27 The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, 'What is this? A new teaching – and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him.'

MARK 1:21-39

28 News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee. 29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. 30 Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. 31 So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. 32 That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. 33 The whole town gathered at the door, 34 and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

MARK 1:21-39

35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. 36 Simon and his companions went to look for him, 37 and when they found him, they exclaimed: 'Everyone is looking for you!' 38 Jesus replied, 'Let us go somewhere else – to the nearby villages – so that I can preach there also. That is why I have come.' 39 So he travelled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

MARK 1:21-39

STUNNING SOVEREIGNTY (SEASONED WITH SERVANTHOOD) [1:21-31]

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MARK 1:29-31

(2) STUNNING SERVANTHOOD (SEASONED WITH SOVEREIGNTY) [1:32-39]

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MARK 1:35-39

LOOK AT JESUS - HE IS OUR STUNNING SOVEREIGN SERVANT!