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LIFE OF PURPOSE

Mark 1

INTRODUCTION: Jesus lived His life with purpose and passion. Mark picks up more of the passion Jesus had to honor the Father and perform the Father's will than the other synoptic gospels of Matthew and Luke. Jesus definitely lived his life on Purpose. The Gospel of John talks about the signs that point us to the deity and humanity of Christ and how Jesus related to the Father. Mark talks more about the miracles and supernatural power that points us to Christ. The narrative in Mark should also be studied with the other synoptic gospels to get a complete picture of Jesus life and times in a running narrative. Mark tends to jump from place to place and insert the miracles and wonders of Christ as they come to him. Mark is evangelistic. He is fast paced and keeps the story moving. Mark is definitely type "A".

I. John _____ "The way"

A. John continues the message of the prophets

- John was the last of the Old Testament prophets... salvation is shown by good works as proof of repentance. Grace is shown by the Holy Spirit's empowerment as Christ works through you. Ephesians 2:8 - 10 ***"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."***

B. John came baptizing unto repentance.

- Baptism here shows your heart of turning to God.
- Jesus here fulfills the Old Testament law by being baptized.

Matthew 3:15 ***"But Jesus answered and said to him, 'Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he allowed Him."***

C. John called the Jews into the "Kingdom of God"

- Announces Jesus baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire!
- True repentance is necessary to enter the Kingdom (Rulership of Christ)

II. Jesus _____ "The Way" (John defines Jesus ministry as "The Way")

A. Through testing.

- Temptation in the wilderness (dealing with the world, flesh & devil)

Book of Luke describes more about Jesus temptation:

1. Satan attacks Jesus - hunger THE FLESH (flesh - 5 senses)

You overcome the flesh by dying daily

2. Satan attacks Jesus promise SATAN HIMSELF (I will give you the kingdoms...)

You overcome Satan with the word of God. "It is written" Three times

3. Satan attacks Jesus glory THE WORLD (glory of the kingdoms of this world)

You overcome the world by not loving it. 1 John 2: 15 - 16 ***"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."***

For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father but is of the world.”

B. Through empowerment. ***“Jesus came out of the wilderness in the power of the Spirit”*** Luke 4:14

C. Through Kingdom Preaching. Mark 1:14 ***“Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom[e] of God, 15 and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom .of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”***

- Kingdom of God has arrived in power
- Kingdom of God has arrived in presence "Kingdom of God is at hand"
- Kingdom of God has arrive in presentation. "repent and believe"

III. Jesus _____ on "The Way"

A. Calling of the 12. Number 12 represents authority

- Jesus went to the sea-side not the synagogue
- Jesus used the common language to motivate them. They were fishermen so they understood catching men would be like catching fish.

“Simon and Andrew his brother CASTING a net...”

Two other men, James and John.. ***“Mending their nets..”***

“Left their father in the boat.”

B. Commissioning of the 12 ***“I will make you become fishers of men.”***

IV. Jesus _____ on "The Way"

A. Teaching Ministry. Mark 1:21 ***“Then they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and taught. And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes”.***

B. Deliverance Ministry. (Jesus gives us some insights into deliverance)

- Man was in the synagogue. Going to church doesn't mean your free
- Man was tormented by Jesus presence ***“What have I to do with You, Jesus.” V 24***
- Man's demons knew who Jesus was
- Jesus ministered with authority (second time mentioned..Kingdom has authority)

C. Healing Ministry.

- No healing is too small (Peter's mother in law healed of a fever)
- No number is too large. ***“Brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon possessed. And the whole city was gathered together at the door. Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not allow the demons to speak, because they know Him.”*** Mark 1:33 - 34
- No healing is too difficult (Man immediately cleansed of leprosy)

D. Cleansing the synagogues. Mark 1:39 ***“And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons.”***

NEW WINE SKINS - NEW MESSAGE

Mark 2

INTRODUCTION: Jesus now enters into Capernaum at the North of the Sea of Galilee. He continues His ministry which He announced in the Synagogue, ***"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."*** Luke 4:18 - 19

Again, Mark is fast moving with short records of many miracles and signs. Mark 2 is no exception. Jesus is now gaining a reputation of healing and deliverance. People are coming to him from all around Galilee seeking help. Mark 2 takes place in Peter's home and this seems to be a center of operation for Jesus Galilee ministry. The problem is so many people are coming so it is hard to get close to Jesus.

This verse expresses the truth of the book of Mark. Mark 2:22 ***"And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins."*** The Jewish leaders were trying to fit Jesus into their religious mold of tradition and ceremonial laws.

JESUS SIMPLY DID NOT FIT!

I. New Wineskin of Jesus _____

1. He taught with authority v - 2 ***"..and He preached the word to them."***
2. He healed with authority v - 3
- Their faith had created an atmosphere of faith. v - 5 ***"Jesus seeing their faith, He said to the paralytic, Son your sins are forgiven you."***
3. He forgave sinners with authority
"Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" v - 10
John 20:22 - ***"And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."***

II. New Wineskin of Jesus _____

1. He loved being with sinners... even calling them as disciples
v - 15 ***"Now it happened, as He was dining in Levi's house, that many tax collectors and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many, and they followed Him."***
2. He loved raising up sinners... Physicians heal sick people
v - 17 ***He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."***

III. New Wineskin of Jesus _____

1. You don't fast during weddings
2. You fast during times of waiting on the Lord

IV. New Wineskin of the _____

1. Men serve a religious system - **Jesus is the system and frees you from the law**
 - The Sabbath made for man, not man for the Sabbath
 - Man's religions depend on the outward performance

 - Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath
 - v - 27.28 ***And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath"***
2. Religions are not consistent - because man's performance is not consistent.
 - Jesus showed them how they honored David, yet David out of expediency broke the religious law to feed his men. When religion is more important than relationship we are worshipping the system not the God of the system.

LESSONS

1. Can't place new wine in old wineskins
2. Don't judge on the outward appearance
3. Don't stay entangled with the law, Jesus gives us liberty...but not license

HOW'S YOUR HEART?

Mark 3

INTRODUCTION: The earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus was surrounded by disagreement. Controversy swirled around everything the Lord Jesus did. It seems that everything Jesus did made the religious Jews angry. As we study this text, we will see three different types of hearts on display. As we move through these verses today, I want you to examine your own heart. As I share the hearts revealed in this text, I want you to answer this question: ***How's Your Heart?***

I. THE _____ HEART OF THE PHARISEES

- A. v. 1-2 **Their Plan** – We are told that “***there was a man there which had a withered hand***”. The word “***withered***” means it was “***paralyzed***”. Ancient Christian tradition tells us that this man was a stonemason who had injured his hand on the job in an accident. As the story goes, he heard that Jesus was in town and he came to seek healing from the Lord.
- B. v. 5 **Their Problem** –
1. Jesus Boldness - “***Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath days, or to do evil? To save life or to kill?***”
 2. Pharisees Hardness. The word for “***hardness***” is the word “***porosis***”. It was the name of a type of marble used in the ancient world
- C. v. 6 **Their Plot** – When Jesus healed this man, they were outraged. They considered this healing to be work. They left that meeting and immediately sought out the Herodians. The Herodians were secular Jews who supported the government of Herod the king.

II. THE _____ HEART OF THE SAVIOR

- A. v. 3 **His Command** –
1. Jesus is compelled by the man's need. Regardless of the controversy it will bring.
 2. Jesus tells the man to “***stand forth***”. Jesus asks for bold public witness. We are to stand forth with our testimony.
- B. v. 4 **His Confrontation** –
1. Jesus confronts the obvious hypocrisy of the Pharisees by asking them two simple, straightforward questions: “***Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?***” v - 4
 2. Jesus confronts the apathy of the Pharisees. He would love to see their hearts softened. But to no avail.
- C. v. 5 **His Consternation** –
1. Jesus became angry. When they refused to answer His questions, Jesus became

angry. The word "**angry**" comes from a word that was used to describe "**sap rising a tree**". The idea of anger that builds and builds until a release of emotion.

2. Jesus became distressed over their lack of care for people... but more care for their system of belief. We are also told that He was "**grieved**".

D. v. 5 **His Compassion** –

1. Showed Jesus purpose on earth... Goes back to His anointing...

"Heal, deliver, proclaim the kingdom.." Luke 4

2. Showed Jesus provision in middle of stressful circumstances... "**they were plotting to kill Him.**"

III. THE _____ HEART OF THE NEEDY

A. v. 10 **What They Saw In Jesus** – The people saw what He had done for others and believed, by faith, that He could do the same for them.

B. v. 10 **What They Sought From Jesus** – These great multitudes "**pressed upon Him**" because they wanted to experience His healing power. They wanted His power to be released in their lives. These people were looking for life-change and they saw the potential for that in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

C. v. 8, 11 **What They Said About Jesus** – While the religious leaders were plotting to kill Jesus, the common man was spreading the word about Him. Everywhere, across the nation of Israel, the people were talking about the Man from Galilee. Even the evil spirits were talking about Jesus.

CALLING OF THE 12

Mark 3:13 - 19

I. **THE MASTER - v 13**

A. Jesus leaves the multitudes.... goes up into a mountain to pray. He is about to make an important decision.

B. Jesus looks to the Father...These 12 will represent Israel, foundations of the church, present in the heavenly Jerusalem. Important

II. **THE MISSION - v 14**

A. Involved **DISCIPLESHIP** ... "That they might be with Him.."

B. Involved **DECLARATION** "That they might preach the gospel"

C. Involved **DEMONSTRATION** "That they might cast out demons & heal the sick."

III. **THE MEN - v 15**

A. Their names:

B. Their natures: These men lacked spiritual understanding. They lacked humility. They lacked faith. They lacked commitment. They lacked power. These men were always getting into trouble; missing the point or Christ's teachings; lashing out at people who were different; saying the wrong thing; walking away from their commitment to Jesus; among other failures and problems. **YET JESUS CHOOSE THEM AND USED THEM!**

ACCUSATION OF THE SCRIBES

I. A TENSE MOMENT...

- A. Accused Jesus of mental illness.... "said He is out of His mind"
- B. Accused Jesus of demon possession. "He has a demon.."

II. A TEACHING MOMENT

- A. Principle of a divided house
- B. Principle of unpardonable sin

III. A TENDER MOMENT

- A. A paternal family
- B. A spiritual family

PARABLE OF THE FOUR SOILS

Mark 4

INTRODUCTION

One of the most well-known parables illustrates the problem Jesus faced...

- a. Commonly known as “The Parable Of The Sower”
- b. But probably more accurately described as “The Parable Of The Four Soils”
- c. Told by Jesus to illustrate different reactions to the gospel

I. THE _____ GROUND

A. EXPLAINED BY JESUS...

1. Those who have the seed taken from their hearts by Satan - Mk 4:15
2. Matthew’s account says it is because they do not understand - cf. Mt 13:19
3. Their condition is one of being “blinded” by Satan to the gospel - 2Co 4:3-4
4. While Satan contributes to their blindness, it is precipitated by their own hardness of heart!

B. APPLIED TODAY...

1. Many people have hardened their hearts to the gospel for various reasons
 - a. Some because they love darkness more than light - Jn 3:19-20
 - b. Some because they love praise from men more than God - Jn 12:42-43
2. Satan easily takes advantage of such people to blind them
 - a. Through appealing doctrines like hedonism, secularism, materialism
 - b. Through popular doctrines like humanism, evolution, post-modernism -- This soil represents many today who have no interest in spiritual things

II. THE _____ GROUND

A. EXPLAINED BY JESUS...

1. Those who hear the word and immediately receive it with gladness - Mk 4:16
2. Yet with no root, they do not endure - Mk 4:17a
3. They stumble when faced with tribulation, persecution, temptation - Mk 4:17b; cf. Lk 8:13 --

This soil represents those who believe and obey, but do not last long

B. APPLIED TODAY...

1. Many hear the Word and received it with great joy
 - a. They are quick to obey the gospel
 - b. They are enthusiastic, “on fire” for the Lord
2. But their faith is shallow, their joy the result of emotionalism
 - a. They are not grounded in the Word
 - b. When troubles arise, there is no endurance and stumbling occurs -- This soil represents Christians ruled more by emotion than by the Word of God

III. THE _____ GROUND

A. EXPLAINED BY JESUS...

1. Those who hear the Word - Mk 4:18 2. Whose ability to bear fruit is choked - Mk 4:19
 - a. By the cares of this world
 - b. By the deceitfulness of riches
 - c. By the desires for other things - (pleasures of life) -- This soil represents those who believe and obey, but then stagnate

B. APPLIED TODAY...

1. Many become Christians, but never mature
 - a. They may attend church, even participate or lead in the services
 - b. But spiritually they remain “babes” and “carnal” - e.g., 1Co 3:1-3; He 5:12-14
2. Their spiritual growth is inhibited
 - a. By cares and anxieties that detract their minds - cf. Lk 12:29-32
 - b. By riches that deceive them into self-sufficiency - cf. 1Ti 6:17-19
 - c. By pleasures that divert their minds from the things of the Spirit - cf. Ga 5:17; 6:7-9 -- This soil represents Christians rendered fruitless by materialism

IV. THE _____ GROUND

A. EXPLAINED BY JESUS...

1. Those who hear the word, accept it, and bear varying amounts of fruit - Mk 4:20 2. Matthew says they “understand” the Word - Mt 13:23 3. Luke says they hear the Word “with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.” - Lk 8:15 -- This soil represents those with good hearts who understand and obey the Word

B. APPLIED TODAY...

1. Many become Christians who have this “noble and good heart”
 - a. They make the effort to understand the Word
 - b. They make the effort to keep it, and with patience produce fruit in their lives!

We will be responsible for what we hear.... take heed!

PARABLE OF THE GROWING SEED

INTRODUCTION - Inherent power of the Word of God....

I. THE PARABLE ANALYZED

A. WHAT IT REVEALS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD...

1. It describes how the Word of God produces fruit (i.e., how the kingdom grows)
 - a. The “seed” is not identified in this parable as the Word of God
 - b. But it was defined as such in the parable of “The Sower” - cf. Mk 4:14; Lk 8:11 2. The growth produced by the Word is a mystery - Mk 4:26-28a
2. The growth produced by the Word is gradual - Mk 4:28b-29

So the kingdom grows mysteriously and gradually by virtue of God’s Word

B. COMPARING THIS PARABLE WITH “THE FOUR SOILS”...

1. The parable of “The Four Soils” emphasizes human responsibility
 - a. The seed did not produce the desired fruit unless it fell on good soil
 - b. It takes “a good and noble heart” for the seed to produce fruit! - cf. Lk 8:15
2. The parable of “The Growing Seed” stresses the divine power within the Word

II. THE PARABLE APPLIED

- THE WORD OF GOD IS A POWERFUL “SEED”...

1. It can cause us to be “born again” - 1Pe 1:22-25
2. It can help us to “grow” - 1Pe 2:1-2
3. It can indeed “save your souls” - Jm 1:21
4. It is living and powerful, filled with Spirit-giving life - He 4:12; Jn 6:63 -- Never underestimate the power of the Word of God!

PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

I. THE MUSTARD SEED

A. THE PLANT ITSELF...

1. The mustard plant is well known for its hot-flavored seeds
2. Among seeds sown in a garden it was generally the smallest
3. As a plant, it reaches ten, sometimes fifteen feet in height
4. In the fall of the year, its branches have become rigid, and the plant often serves as a shelter
for birds of many kinds (William Hendriksen, Commentary on Matthew)

B. PROVERBIAL USES OF THE MUSTARD SEED...

1. The mustard seed was used frequently to describe anything that is small in its beginning
2. Jesus used it on another occasion to describe one’s faith - cf. Mt 17:20

II. THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE

A. THE KINGDOM OF GOD WOULD HAVE A SMALL BEGINNING...

1. Old Testament prophecy foretold this:
 - a. Concerning the Messiah - cf. Isa 11:1; 53:2-3
 - b. Concerning the kingdom - cf. Dan 2:35b,44 (starting out as a stone, becoming a great mountain)
2. Consider this description of the beginning: “The Son of Man grew up in a despised province; he did not appear in public until his thirtieth year; then taught for two or three years in neighboring villages, and occasionally at Jerusalem; made a few converts, chiefly among the poor and unlearned; and then falling into the hands of his enemies, died the shameful death of the cross; such, and so slight, was the commencement of the universal kingdom of God.” - R. C. Trench, Notes On The Parables Of Our Lord

JESUS AND THE STORM

I. WE ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM STORMS

- A. WE FACE STORMS BECAUSE WE ARE HUMANS..part of the human condition is we will have storms in a fallen world.
- B. WE FACE STORMS BECAUSE WE ARE CHRISTIANS... God promised us glory following suffering.. "they that live Godly will suffer persecution..."

II. JESUS HELPS US THROUGH THE STORMS

- THROUGH FAITH...

- 1. During storms, we are often afraid ("we are perishing!") - Mk 4:38
- 2. Jesus teaches that fear is indicative of a lack of faith - Mk 4:40
- 3. To overcome fear in storms,
 - we need to grow in faith!
 - a. Faith that God will protect us if it be His will - cf. Ps 46:1-3
 - b. Faith that God will deliver us to His heavenly city even if we die - Ps 46:4-5,10-

JESUS DEMONSTRATING HIS POWER

Mark 5

INTRODUCTION: Jesus is now full force into His ministry. He travels around the sea of Galilee teaching, casting out demons and healing the sick. Remember Jesus is walking out the vision of Isaiah 61 that He read in Luke 4 in the Synagogue right after His temptation in the wilderness. Upon the ordination and beginning of His early ministry. He said, ***"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified."***

Isaiah 61:1 - 4

We just finished the teaching of Jesus in the parables in Mark 4. Now Jesus demonstrates His power over demons, sickness and death.

Remember that Jesus:

1. Operated under transmitted authority: John 5:27 ***"The Father gave Jesus authority to execute judgment because He was the Son of man."***
2. Always functioned under the Father's authority: John 5:30 ***"I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me."***

I. THE _____ **DELIVERANCE**

A. The CONDITION

This man gives us a real picture of people who are demon oppressed & possessed.

1. He lived in the tombs ***"..immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 who had his dwelling among the tombs."*** 5:2b - 3
2. He was unclean. ***"with an unclean spirit."*** 2b
3. He was out of control ***"and no one could bind him, not even with chains."*** verse - 3
4. He was self destructive ***"crying out and cutting himself with stones."*** v - 5

This man shows us how demons react to God's presence

1. He fell down and worshipped Jesus... the man did, not the demons.
2. The demons were tormented.
3. The demons did not want to be disembodied

B. The COMPASSION

1. Jesus confronted the problem directly. ***"And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit."*** verse - 2
2. Jesus exercised His authority to give the man opportunity to repent

C. The CURE

1. It was progressive. For He said to him, "**Come out of the man, unclean spirit!**" verse - 8
2. It was with permission.. "**And at once Jesus gave them permission.**" v - 13

THE MAN WAS IMMEDIATELY COMMISSIONED TO EVANGELIZE THE DECAPOLIS

II. THE _____ WITH THE ISSUE

A. The Condition

1. She had the issue for 12 years... 12 number of authority **Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years.**" v - 25
2. She suffered much with many physicians
3. She grew worse
4. She understood the power of declaration. For she said, "**If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.**"

B. The Compassion

1. She was afraid Jesus would rebuke her...
2. She was honest and confessed.

C. The Cure

1. Jesus honored her faith
2. Jesus blessed her with peace

III. THE _____ OF JARIUS

A. The Condition - Jarius was a ruler of the synagogue... some came from the ruler of the synagogue's house who said, "**Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?**" v - 35

1. Sickness led to death.
2. Men became hopeless... death seemed final

B. The Compassion

1. Jesus declaration... "**As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe."**" v - 35
2. Jesus selection... **And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James.**" v- 37
3. Jesus separation... **And they ridiculed Him. But when He had put them all outside, He took the father and the mother of the child, and those who were with Him, and entered where the child was lying.**" v - 40

C. The Cure

1. He took her by the hand... "**Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, "Talitha, cumi," which is translated, "Little girl, I say to you, arise."**" v - 41
2. He spoke life
3. He told them to feed her... evidently dying makes one hungry! "**and said that something should be given her to eat.**" v - 43

JESUS EMPOWERING HIS DISCIPLES

Mark 6

INTRODUCTION: This is the continued fulfillment of Mark 1:13 - 14 **Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."** Jesus is traveling and experiencing circuit evangelism. **"Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching."** Mark 4:6 Chapter 6 is a series of events that happened as Jesus traveled from village to village. This chapter is filled with exciting and tragic events. Jesus always caused people to wonder and be amazed! Jesus was the original "ACTION MAN"! People either loved Him or hated Him. Few were not impressed with Him.

I. Jesus _____ 1 - 6

A. Jesus the Teacher

"And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue." v - 2

B. Jesus the Man

"Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they were offended at Him." v - 3

C. Jesus the Amazed

"And He marveled because of their unbelief." v - 6

II. Disciples _____ 7 - 12

A. Jesus sends out the 12

1. Calls them to Himself
2. Gives them authority
3. Sends them out

Mark 6:12 - 13 **"So they went out and preached that people should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them."** (Duplicating the exact ministry of Christ - under transmitted authority)

B. Jesus secures their fruit and protects them from demonic harm

Luke 10 parallels this event. **"I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."**

Luke 10:18

C. Jesus says to move on from unbelief

Mark 6:11 **"And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them. Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!"**

III. John _____ 14 - 29

A. John is politically incorrect - He rebukes Herod for marrying Philip's wife

B. Herod is morally corrupt

1. Herod did fear John the Baptist...

"for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him." v - 20

2. Herod was influenced by lust. **Impure conscience is self condemning**
"And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, 'Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you.'" v - 22

3. Herod was entrapped by Herodias.
"And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her." v - 26

IV. Multitude _____ 30 - 44

A. Must Rest... Remember God's holy day is His day of rest!

B. Multitudes Run..

"But the multitudes[d] saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities." v -33

C. Many were fed... Jesus said, **"You feed them"!**

"Now those who had eaten the loaves were about five thousand men." v - 44

D. Meal Multiplied

"and the two fish He divided among them all. So they all ate and were filled. And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish" v - 41b - 43

1. Divine Blessing

2. Divine Order

3. Divine Multiplication

V. Disciples _____ "And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled." v - 51

A. Hurried trip

"Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away." v - 45

B. Harried trip

"Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them." v - 48

C. Holy Trip

"for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." v - 50

D. Hardened hearts

"Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened." v 51 -52

VI. Many _____

A. Masses followed Him

B. Multitudes healed by Him

"Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well." v - 56

LESSONS

1. Jesus brings marvels... in His teachings, His miracles, His presence
2. Jesus brings divisions ... from unbelief and hardened hearts
3. Jesus brings provisions - peace, healing, bread for hungry, teaching

A MATTER OF THE HEART

Mark 7

INTRODUCTION: Someone well stated, "The heart of the matter is the matter of the heart". We see three hearts revealed in Mark 7. Here Jesus is teaching how important it is to have a **"Pure heart"**. Matthew teaches us that **"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God."** Matthew 5:8 The issues of life flow out of our hearts.

I. _____ **HEART** - "Heart is our place of emotions and desires, it's in our soul, the place of our identity given by God at creation."

The human condition of the natural heart is:

- Deceitful and desperately wicked
- Evil hearts of unbelief
- Hardened hearts

But God gives us New Hearts! Ezekiel 36:26 **"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."**

- Condition of the Pharisees.... **"Come from Jerusalem"** (Place of religious tradition and formal ritual. **"They found fault"**. (legalism always judges liberty in Christ)
- Legalism has many rules... the more the better so we can feel holy
- Legalism is hypocritical because it neglects the greater commands of God. Jesus calls them **"You hypocrites."**

A. The eyes of the heart. How your heart interprets life determines it's purity

"To the pure of heart all things are pure, but to him who is defiled is nothing pure."

B. The confession of the mouth. - The mouth is attached to the heart!

True defilement comes from within man who speaks from a defiled heart.

"Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks". Listen long enough to a man speak and you will hear his heart. Hebrews warns: "looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled." 12:15

C. The warning from Jesus.

"This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

Mark 7:6

Spiritually man is constantly looking for outward show of religion to cover the inward lack of love. Love for God, love for one another. Here, it was simple love for mother

and father.

- They were breaking the basic command to care for mother and father, but their tradition said to neglect them... verses 9 - 13

"Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart."

I Peter 1:22

What can we do to cleanse our hearts?

1. Test your heart. **"Love the Lord your God with all your HEART.....:** Are your affections set upon God's love? Can you receive God's love for you?
2. Turn your heart toward God. Joel 2:12 **"Now, therefore," says the Lord, "Turn to Me with all your heart, With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning."**
3. Tune your heart.... Jesus said, **"If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!"** v - 16

II. _____ HEART - Syro-Phoenician Gentile Woman

A. Her worship **"She fell at His feet"...**

B. Her wish **"She kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter."**

C. Her want - She lacked all right standing....

a Gentile (Jesus was still ministering to Israel

a woman, Jesus actually referred to her as a little dog. If was a test of her Faith....

would she withstand anything to get what she wanted. She didn't get discouraged but more determined. her faith was demanding

"For this saying the demon has gone out of your daughter."

God honors a determined heart....

1. The importunate widow

2. The nobleman

3. The centurion

4. Job ... He just would not give up, give in or give away his faith.

James 5:11 **"Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful."**

Hebrews 6:12 **"that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."**

III. _____ HEART - "He hath done all things well". v- 37

- Great job Jesus!!

A. The place of his healing - Decapolis (10 cities at the South end of the dead sea)

- The demoniac had witnessed in these cities

- The word has spread about Jesus

B. The performance of his healing - kind of a show and tell.

- Put his fingers in his ears

- Put saliva on his tongue

- Pronounced to heaven... "Be Opened"

C. The proclamation of his healing.

- Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone.. but it doesn't work again...

Mark 7:36 **"Then He commanded them that they should tell no one; but the more He commanded them, the more widely they proclaimed it."**

LESSONS

1. Protect your heart for out of it are the issues of life!
2. Persevere until you get the answer
3. Proclaim the goodness of the Lord

MINISTRY OF DISTINCTION

Mark 8

INTRODUCTION: Remember Jesus is still traveling and ministering among the villages. He was really an itinerate evangelist with His traveling troupe of disciples. Jesus uses the events of this chapter to continue to teach the disciples, warn them, and instruct them in the way of the Kingdom. The key verse of Mark is 1:13 - 15 ***"Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.'"***

I. A DISTINCT _____ Feeding of the 4,000

A. Jesus understood the needs... This is the only time in the gospels where Jesus announced His own compassion. ***"I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And if I send them away hungry to their own houses, they will faint on the way; for some of them have come from afar."*** v -2

B. Jesus multiplied the source...7 loaves

1. The 5,000 feeding was different in number and operation. 12 baskets left over
- the number 12 refers to the nation Israel. 12 Tribes, 12 sons of Abraham, 12 Sons of Jacob, 12 apostles, etc.
2. Here the multitudes were fed and filled with 7 baskets left over. 7 is the number of nations mentioned in Deuteronomy 7:1 at the time of Moses.
- Jesus had just ministered to the Syro-Phoenician woman in chapter 7. The bread was also for her, even though it was "so called" under the table.

II. A DISTINCT _____ "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Herod"

A. The religious leaders had just asked Jesus for a sign...Jesus refused

B. The disciples had forgotten bread for themselves...

Even though the multitudes were fed... the disciples just had one loaf among them!

The Natural

1. The disciples understood natural bread
2. Hardened hearts don't understand
3. Our natural man forgets the miracles

The Spiritual

1. Jesus meant leaven of the Pharisees
2. Jesus rebukes, "Eyes that don't see"
3. Jesus reminds them to remember

What is Leaven? Jesus calls it a doctrine in Matthew. "Doctrine of the Pharisees" Matt. 16

1. It is hidden within the bread, but increases and affects the whole loaf
2. It is wickedness that is not evidently seen, but works behind the scene
3. It is both religious (Pharisees) and political (Leaven of Herod)

1010 Mark

- Herod was a Jew and wanted to integrate with the religious leaders for his selfish reasons. He built the temple for the Jews. He claimed to be a devout Jew

III. A DISTINCT _____ Progressive Healing... Jesus prayed two times

A. Jesus took him out of the city....

- Perhaps away from the multitude... He had been having problems escaping the multitudes after former healings.
- Perhaps to focus more distinctly on the need. A unique healing of spittle

B. Jesus performed a progressive healing...

- The man was not totally healed on the first touching.
- The man saw men walking as trees...
- The man represents the pathway to enlightenment that comes to the sinner...
"Some plant, some water, but God gives the increase"
- God's light "shines more and more unto a perfect day."

IV. A DISTINCT _____ Peter's confession. "Thou are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

A. Came by revelation. Matthew 16:17-19 ***"Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."***

B. Came by declaration to Peter... "Upon this rock"... this refers to the statement that Peter made, not Peter himself.

V. A DISTINCT _____

- A. Jesus began teaching them to prepare for what was to come.... His crucifixion, burial and resurrection. They would later remember this teaching.
- B. Peter began rebuking Jesus. Jesus rebuked Peter. ***"Get thee behind me Satan."***

Remember in the book of John how that Jesus took the disciples aside to prepare them for what was coming.

VI. A DISTINCT _____

- A. He called a select group... "He called to Himself."
- B. He commissions them with special instructions:
1. The "desire" follow Him
 2. The "denial" of self and wealth
 3. The "demonstration of your faith" confess Him before men.

APPLICATION TO "ACTION"

1. Don't ever forget the wonders of His miraculous power. (salvation, healing, deliverance)
2. Don't be influenced by the leaven of religion or political solutions... Jesus is the only way.
"Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice

- and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."** I Cor. 5:8
3. Follow Jesus with a pure heart exercising your faith. Confess Him before men... witness His great salvation to others unashamedly.

DECLARING HIS MAJESTY

Mark 9

INTRODUCTION: This is one of the great chapters in the book of Mark declaring the majesty of the King and His coming kingdom. Jesus gives the disciples a glimpse of the future coming kingdom and makes a remarkable declaration, **"Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power." v - 1**

This chapter looks at different views of the kingdom power.

I. The _____ of the kingdom 9:1 - 13

"... see the kingdom of God present with power." v - 9

Three- fold manifestation:

A. HIS glory on the mount of transfiguration

Jesus reveals a little of His light... brighter than any light on earth.

- Jesus will be the light of the coming creation "No need of sun or moon..."
- Jesus will now light the world as the revealed Son of God... John said, **"This light has appeared to all men..."**

B. His glory of the day of Pentecost

- "tongues of fire appeared upon them.." fire of His glory and light
- They went out the shared the witness of Jesus the light

C. HIS glory as the coming King

Psalms 145:11 **"They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom, And talk of Your power."**

"Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power." v - 1

The two witnesses... the Law and the Prophets

1. Moses and Elijah appeared with Christ
2. Peter wanted to build tabernacles and stay... the Father announced that the day of tabernacles was over... now the key was **"This is my beloved Son. Hear Him!"**

Now his tabernacle is to dwell among us and in us. "Know ye not that you are the temple of the Holy Spirit..."

II. The _____ of the kingdom 9:14 - 29

"... if you believe all things are possible." v - 23

A. Authority cast out demons

I John 3:8 **"He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the**

beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil."

B. Power of faith **Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, [a] all things are possible to him who believes."**

C. Power of prayer and fasting

- Prayer and fasting positions us to believe. Faith is increased by tuning our hearts into God's power. Prayer and fasting do this.

III. The _____ of the kingdom 9:30 - 32

"... He will rise the third day". v - 31

A. The resurrection was God's announcement that the full manifestation of His kingdom would come. Called His firstfruit... His guarantee of the future harvest

B. The resurrection was God's announcement of all things being made "New" that John the Baptist introduced. **"Then He answered and told them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and restores all things." v - 12**

III. The _____ in the kingdom

"... the first will be last." v - 35

A. The Principle of greatness... Servants are greatest

B. The principle of simple faith... Children represent greatness

1. Children are naturally humble and innocent
2. Children don't seek position
3. Children exercise simple faith

V. The _____ in the kingdom

"... Do not forbid him, for no one who works miracles in my name can soon afterward speak evil of Me." v - 39

A. Our natural feelings of exclusiveness **"We forbade him because he does not follow us."**

B. Jesus inclusion of all who declare His name and do works in His name

C. Jesus warnings concerning offenses... verses 42 - 48

IV. The _____ of the kingdom

"... have salt in yourselves." v - 50

A. Jesus gives two illustrations.

1. We all will be seasoned with fire
2. We can become like salt seasoning the world around us.

SECRETS OF THE KINGDOM

Mark 10

INTRODUCTION: Jesus is here sharing with the disciples the secrets of the kingdom of God. The people were questioning Him, the Pharisees were questioning Him and even His disciples. Jesus used the method of questions and answers to teach. He would take the questions asked of Him and turn them into teaching opportunities. This form of teaching is called the "Socratic Method of Teaching". Knowledge comes in unfolding layers of revelation and understanding. The question and answer method is one of the best forms of this. Developed by Socrates, it was really first used by Jesus Christ in the most pure form.

I. The secret of _____ question of marriage and divorce

Mark 10:5 ***"Because of the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept. But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female.' [a] 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'; [b] so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."***

A. They asked the question to test Him

B. He answered the question to teach them

- Moses permitted divorce because of the hardness of our hearts

- God planned marriage with man's best interests... "Man with woman" "Forever" "Joined together in one flesh". Remember God's commands are always with PROMISE!

Key Principle: God's love for us provides the best life of blessing.

II. The secret of _____ - questions of who is greatest in kingdom

A. Disciples were annoyed that children would interrupt the great teachings of Jesus

Mark 10:13 ***"Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.."***

B. Jesus announced the greatness of the kingdom. Children live in the moment.

Ex. Raising my two youngest... always into the moment... always excited about their environment.

Key Principle: Greatness comes in serving others and living in the moment.

III. The secret of _____ - greater cleanses the lesser

Mark 10:21 ***"Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me."***

A. The universal question .."What must ***I do*** to inherit eternal life?"

Rich people are usually people of action and activity... he naturally looked to his ability

B. The unusual answer .. "Go sell all that you have" .. total abandonment of self effort and achievement. "Not of our works, lest any man should boast..." Eph. 2:9

C. The amazing transformation - true repentance frees us from ourselves and our own performance.

Key Principle: Salvation comes through total trust in Jesus finished work!

IV. The secret of _____ - blessed in this life and that to come

Mark 10:31 ***"But many who are first will be last, and the last first."***

A. Redemption is always because of God great ability not man's activity

- Trusting in riches blinds us to simple faith

B. Redemption always provides a greater reward .. 100 fold in this life and blessings in the life to come.

Ex. Bahamas or Siberia... witnessing to Muslims

Key Principle: Receive your salvation and the blessings of God's love for you.

V. The secret of _____ - Jesus was showing them things to come.

A. He would fulfill His divine purpose -suffering and crucifixion

Mark 10:33 ***"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles."***

B. He would evidence His divine power - resurrection

Mark 10:34 ***"..and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again."***

C. Disciples wanted to position themselves.... men are always looking for position, Jesus is looking for servant passion.

Mark 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."***

Key Principle: Know your purpose, know His plan, serve with passion.

VI. The secret of _____ - Confess and receive

A. Cast aside your garment

Mark 10:50 ***"And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus."***

B. Come to Jesus in haste

C. Call upon His name in healing.

Mark 10:51 - 52 ***The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."***

Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road."

Key Principle: "Confess and receive your healing.."

JESUS KINGDOM AUTHORITY

Mark 11

INTRODUCTION: Jesus shows us His authority in His kingdom of power and glory. The triumphal entry into Jerusalem is a picture of the contrast of His manifest kingdom as He walked on earth and the kingdom coming with great power. This chapter is all about His authority over nature, over timing, over His temple, over His questioned authority from the scribes. Two times the declaration is made over Jesus, first with great mystery and even rejection of His kingdom He offered to Israel, and second the declaration that someday Israel will cry again, **"Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,"** as they receive Him as the true Messiah and KING!

I. HIS _____ ENTRY

Divine pictures of the King and His kingdom

A. Picture of peaceful conquest

Mark 11:2 **"and He said to them, 'Go into the village opposite you; and as soon as you have entered it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has sat. Loose it and bring it. And if anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it,' and immediately he will send it here.'"**

- The providential purpose of God through His Son.

Providence is God's provision of everything we need in advance for us to fulfill our destiny. All resources at His disposal!

- Donkey and its colt... owner and his obedience... prophecy and its fulfillment

Zechariah 9:9 **"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey."**

- Behold your King
- Coming to you
- He is Just
- Having Salvation
- Lowly

Jesus is coming again riding upon the white horse

Revelation 19:11 **"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war."**

Bigger pictures of the coming KING!

1. Coming to sit on David's throne

34 **"For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool. 'Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.'"**

2. Coming in the name of the Lord "has the authority of heaven"
3. Coming to establish His throne or kingdom on earth.

Isaiah 9:5 - 7 ***"For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful,***

Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

II. HIS _____ OF THE FIG TREE

1. Picture of Jesus power over nature
2. Picture of Jesus power of FAITH CONFESSION
"The disciples heard it"... Jesus made sure they heard His declaration
3. Picture of Israel's fruitless reception of His Messiahship.

Mark 11:20 - 24 ***"Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away." So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."***

- Israel had leaves that looked good but were out of season
- Israel had not produces the fruit of repentance and faith

Matthew 7:18 - 19 ***"A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore by their fruits you will know them."***

III. HIS _____ OF THE TEMPLE

Pictures of the True Temple

A. Jesus cleanses the temple

Mark 11:17 ***"Then He taught, saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations but you have made it a 'den of thieves.' "***

1. Place of prayer
2. Place for the nations

B. Jesus dismisses the challenge

Mark 11: ***"Then they came again to Jerusalem. And as He was walking in the temple, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders came to Him. And they said to Him, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority to do these things?"***

TRUTH OR DARE

Mark 12

INTRODUCTION: Jesus now begins to teach in parables. The word parable means "To throw Along Side". It is a way of laying out truth through illustrations, stories and illustrations that are not meant to hide truth but to save truth for only those who have a desire to receive it. Parables usually are peeled like onions, layer by layer. The more you press into the truth, the more you understand. Matthew 13:10 - 13 ***"The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. This is why I speak to them in parables: "Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand."***

This single parable made the religious leaders mad and they began to try and trip Jesus up with questions that could not be easily answered, without creating a problem. Let's see how Jesus handed the critics.

I. PARABLE OF THE _____ 12:1 - 12

A. The vineyard owner

He prepared the vineyard in fullness - every detail -

1. Hedge of protection
2. Vat for production -
3. Tower for perception - could see the enemy of the vineyard (small foxes)

He prepared the vineyard in faith - believing that it would produce the fruit of the kingdom

"The earth is the Lords and the fullness thereof..."

B. The vineyard servants

1. Prophets rejected
2. The Spirit turned away
3. The goodness and grace of God dismissed

C. The vineyard Son

1. Came with authority from heaven
2. Killed with the stones of religion

D. The owners judgment

1. Destroyed the vinedressers
2. Delivered the vineyard to a new owner - gospel of the Gentiles

Jesus became the chief cornerstone. "Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord." I Peter 2:6

II. QUESTIONS OF THE _____ 12:13 - 17

A. The question of the taxes.

- If Jesus said yes pay taxes He would be acknowledging Caesar's right to rule
- If Jesus said no, He would be breaking the law

1. They really wanted to trap Jesus
2. Jesus let the coin answer the question.

"And Jesus answered and said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." Mark 12:17

The Pharisees were legalists... the Herodians were loyalists

III. QUESTIONS OF THE _____ 12:18 - 27

A. Belief of the Sadducees

1. Did not believe in the resurrection yet they asked Jesus a question that was about our resurrected bodies.
2. They also sided with the Herodians and were a loyal party to Rome.

B. Rebuke of the Sadducees

1. Jesus said they did not know the Scriptures nor the power of God.
 - They misinterpreted the Mosaic law
 - They mistrusted the power of the resurrection
2. Jesus answered that Moses heard the answer from the burning bush...

How can God be the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and they be not resurrected?

IV. QUESTION OF THE _____ 12:28 - 34

A. Belief of the Scribe. They held true to the law.

1. Jesus answered with the law... but added the great commandment of the New Testament.
2. The Scribe answered with his heart... Jesus said, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God.

V. JESUS _____ THE SCRIBES - 12:35-40

A. Jesus questions the Scribes... How can David call Jesus his son yet call Him Lord?

VI. JESUS TEACHES ON _____ - 12:41 - 44

A. Look at where Jesus sat... by the treasury

1. Watched them give
2. He weighed the sacrifice of their gifts

B. Look at what the widow gave

1. She gave all she had... the size of the gift is not as important as the sacrifice of gift.
2. Demonstrated total submission to the King.

Luke 14:33 ***"Whosoever is not willing to give all that he possesses cannot be my disciple."***

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Mark 13

INTRODUCTION: Jesus now goes to the Mount of Olives and begins His discourse on the end times. The end times began at Pentecost and we have been in the last days since. Acts 2:17 ***"And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams."***

Jesus here gives us a timeline of events that will happen in the VERY last days. This chapter outlines those events. This is the "Time of END" of times.

I. THE _____ OF THE TEMPLE (happened in 70 AD)

- A. Religion will fall - Temple represented the best of man's efforts
 - Herod's temple was glorious and in some ways even greater than Solomon's temple.
 - took 38 years to build
 - was destroyed 4 years after completion
 - had already been cracked 40 years earlier at the death of Christ. The holy of holies
- B. Relationship with God will falter
 - Since the temple represented the presence of God, its destruction caused a falling away of many Jewish practitioners

II. THE _____ OF THE PRESENT EARTH

- A. **Time of Deception** "Many will come and deceive many.."
 - False christ's will appear
 - False signs will appear
 - False prophecies will appear
- B. **Time of Destruction** "Wars and rumors of wars"
- C. **Time of Delivering** you to councils and kings
 - Surrounds a time of harvest "Gospel preached to all nations (ethnos)
 - Surrounds a time of testimony "Holy Spirit will guide you what to say.."
 - Surrounds a time of unnatural affections "Brother against brother.."
 - Surrounds a time of endurance. "They that endure to the end will be saved.."
- D. **Time of Daniel's 70th week.** "Abomination of Desolation."
 - There will be great tribulation "Like has never been on the earth"
 - There will be national dissolution. "Flee to the mountains.."
 - There will be massive destruction. "unless those days be shortened, no flesh will survive"

Matthew gives us a much more detailed outline of the "Great Tribulation"

1. Beginning of Sorrows
2. Middle of the Tribulation
3. Time of the end... great Tribulation
4. Triumphant coming of Christ - final trumpet shall blow

III. THE _____ - TIME OF THE FATHER

Mark 13:32 ***"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is."***

- A. We operate on Transmitted authority ***"Gave authority to His servants"***
- B. We operate in our assigned duty ***"And to each his work"***
- C. We operate in constant awareness ***"And commanded the doorkeeper to watch."***

HIS COMING:

- A. Will be Suddenly
- B. Will be Secretly
- C. Will be Solemnly
- D. We could be sleeping... be aware... AWAKE!

HOUR OF PREPARATION

Mark 14

INTRODUCTION: Jesus is now preparing for His death. He knew His hour had now come. John 17:1 - 5 ***"Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should[a] give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was."***

This significant chapter reveals the detail preparations that are made for the coming crucifixion. The Jewish leaders were deciding the timing of Jesus arrest.

I. PREPARING FOR HIS _____ 1 - 9

A. Jesus anointing for burial

Mark 14:3 ***"And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very costly oil of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured it on His head."***

B. Disciples criticism

- Called it wasted
- Called it misspent

C. Jesus declaration of favor upon the woman

Mark 14:8b - 9 ***"She has come beforehand to anoint My body for burial. 9 Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her."***

- Woman had a spirit of discernment... she understood the times
- Women had a spirit of sacrifice
- Women was given a forever blessing!

II. PREPARING FOR HIS _____ 10, 43 - 50

Two betrayals pictured in this chapter... Judas and Peter

A. FIRST JUDAS

1. Judas is revealed at the last supper

Mark 14:20 - 21 ***"He answered and said to them, "It is one of the twelve, who dips with Me in the dish. The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had never been born."***

2. Judas is remunerated by the high priests....

B. SECOND PETER

1. Peter boasts
2. Peter betrays

III. PREPARING FOR HIS _____ - CALLED THE "LORD'S SUPPER" 23 - 26

A. Providence provided a place called the upper room

Mark 14:14 ***"say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, 'Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?'" Then he will show you a large upper room, furnished and prepared; there make ready for us."***

B. Pronouncement provided a picture of the coming new covenant

Mark 14:22 - 25 ***"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body.'" Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, 'This is My blood of the new[covenant, which is shed for many. Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."***

- Receive it as a picture of His sacrifice
- Receive it as a picture of His healing power
- Receive it as a restoring of relationships..."Forgive one another"

Learn to Discern His Body... i.e. understand it's meaning

IV. PREPARING FOR HIS _____ 32 - 36

A. It was a garden of betrayal

Mark 14:44 ***"Now His betrayer had given them a signal, saying, 'Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him and lead Him away safely."***

B. It was a garden of breakthrough "Nevertheless, not my will but thine..."

Mark 14:35 - 36 ***"He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. 36 And He said, 'Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will."***

The final scene is the high priests courtyard...

- Peter followed afar off
- Peter betrayed Jesus three times... Later Jesus made Peter confess his love three times.
- Peter wept - tears unto repentance

The flesh is weak, but our spirits are willing....

- Even Jesus in the garden was tempted again in the flesh
- Peter failed in the flesh, but later became strong in the power of the Holy Spirit

Mark 14:38 ***"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."***

JESUS THE KING

Mark 15

INTRODUCTION: The scene now goes in front of Pilate to further accuse. Pilate is clearly frustrated on how to handle Jesus. He questions Him about His kingship. This is the main question of the ages... "are you the king?" The kingdom of God is all about Jesus authority over all things. Pilate knew that Jesus possessed a powerful presence and he was trying to understand why such a powerful king would subject himself to such a death. He clearly did not understand the purpose for which Jesus came.

I. Pilate asked "Are You A _____?"

- Religion denounces Him as King.. Why? They don't want Jesus to rule over them

A. The Wise Men sought the King! Matthew 2:1b-2 ***"..wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."***

B. Religious leaders were envious of the King Mark 15:9-10 ***"But Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" For he knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy."***

II. Pilate announces " _____ "

A. The Truth cannot be denied Mark 15:12 ***"Pilate answered and said to them again, "What then do you want me to do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?"***

- The irony is the Jews evidently had called Jesus the King
- Pilate kept announcing Jesus as the king...

B. The Lies of religion want to deny and crucify Him as king.

C. Pilate in weakness delivers Jesus to the crowd

III. Soldiers mock Jesus and " _____ "

A. Soldiers acknowledge Jesus as King

- Place a purple robe on Him
- Place a crown on Him

Mark 15:16 - 18 ***"Then the soldiers led Him away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together the whole garrison. And they clothed Him with purple; and they twisted a crown of thorns, put it on His head, and began to salute Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!"***

B. Soldier bowed their knee and mocked Jesus... but the word says ***"every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord."***

The amazing truth of Mark 15 is everything that is done in mockery and denial of Jesus Christ continues to announce Him "THE KING OF THE JEWS"!

IV. Crowd accused Him but the cross declares Him "King of the Jews".

A. Scribes were offended John 19:20 - 22 ***"Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. Therefore the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'He said, "I am the King of the Jews.'"""***

B. Pilate was determined John 19:19 ***"Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."***

V. Joseph prepared "the place for King Jesus "Joseph was waiting for the kingdom"

A. He Died

- The last Adam...The first Adam brought death... the Last Adam defeated Death

I Corinthians 15:45 ***"And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit."***

Since man (Adam) brought the power of death, it took Christ to come in the flesh and defeat death.

- The final sacrifice for sin .. Jesus died once

I Peter 3:18 ***"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit."***

- The full payment for man... Jesus said "It is finished!"

The holiness of the Father was satisfied with the sacrifice!

Isaiah 53:10 - 11 ***"Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities."***

B. He was wrapped in fine linen...anointed with spices

- White speaks of purity... spices of fragrance... Gill's Exposition of the Bible

"and also to all sensible sinners, to whom a crucified Christ is precious; since by his death sin is expiated, the law fulfilled, justice satisfied, reconciliation made, security from condemnation obtained, and death is abolished."

C. He was buried

- In a prepared tomb

- With transgressors

- Observed by women

HE IS RISEN!

Mark 16

INTRODUCTION: Judas had betrayed Him, Peter had denied Him, the disciples followed Him afar off, the women had mourned over Him and all were weeping because of His death. Darkness had come over the earth and all evidence seemed to point to the end. Our natural man operates on our senses and our intellect tries to reconcile what we have seen. But where is faith? Where is the revelation of Jesus own words... Mark 8:31 **"And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again."** Jesus had given the a prophetic warning and instruction of what would happen? But why did they not believe? Let's look at this chapter and see the events around His resurrection.

I. THE GREAT _____

A. It was a New Day! Jesus resurrection brought a new day, a new hope and new life!

1. First day of the week (this is the day of new beginnings)

- Jesus is called the firstborn out from among the dead ones....

Colossians 1:18 **"And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence."**

- Jesus resurrection birthed a whole new creation!

- Jesus resurrection established Him as sovereign over all creation!

(firstborn in the Bible does not necessarily mean the one born first in the family but the one given pre-eminence over the family)

Gen. 41:51-52, "And Joseph called the name of the **first-born Manasseh**: For, said he, God hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house. And the name of the second called he **Ephraim**: For God hath made me fruitful in the land of my affliction." Jer. 31:9, ". . . for I am a father to Israel, and **Ephraim is My firstborn.**"

2. First great obstacle to see Jesus... the large stone will keep us out! "Who will roll the stone away?" We all face obstacle between us and Jesus, but God will roll the stone away!

3. First great declaration about Jesus.... **"Do not be afraid.....He is risen!"**

- Fear of man "For they said nothing, for they were afraid" v - 8

- Fear of the unknown "They wept" v - 10

- Fear of the known "And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe." v - 11

- Fear of man "For they said nothing, for they were afraid" v - 8

II. THE GREAT _____

What causes unbelief? Trauma, great sorrow, great disappointment

God's word is often overcome with doubt.... we forget what He has said!

1. Witness of the Mary Magdalene ***"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept. And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe." v - 9, 10, 11***

2. Witness of the two men ***"After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country. And they went and told it to the rest, but they did not believe them either"***

Who were these two men? The men on the road to Emmaus.

Jesus joined their conversation as they went down the road... their eyes were not opened to who He was... But they had heard that Jesus had risen from the dead.

- Jesus expounded the scriptures from the Law and the Prophets concerning Himself.

Luke 24:21 ***"But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened."***

- They invited Jesus to join them for an evening meal...

Luke 24:30 - 31 ***"Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight."***

3. Witness of Jesus Himself.

- Jesus first rebuked them for their unbelief

Mark 16:14 ***"Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen."***

- Jesus secondly instructed them from Moses and the Prophets

Luke 24:44 - 45 ***Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.***

- Jesus opened their eyes to see that His body was real

III. THE _____

1. A kingdom commission.... go with authority and power

2. A signs and wonders commission - Cast out demons.. heal the sick!

3. A divine protection commission Mark 16:18 ***"..they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them.***

IV. THE _____

1. His ascension.... bodily, finally as HE sat down at the right hand of the Father.

2. Their reaction.... Mark 16:20 ***"And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen."***

Acts 1:11 ***"who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."***