

Title: Kingdom Authority

Passage: Mark 1:21-28

And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

Introduction:

Question of reflection: Who is Jesus Christ?

- How a person thinks and responds has eternal implications.

John 8:24

I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins.

Quote: A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a **great moral teacher**. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice...Now it seems to me obvious that He was neither a lunatic nor a fiend: and consequently, however strange or terrifying or unlikely it may seem, I have to accept the view that He was and is God.

- "Mere Christianity" (C.S. Lewis)

Context of Passage:

Mark 1:1

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

- Gospel = good news of a king
- Christ = The Anointed One = Messianic king
- Son of God = clear claim to divinity

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Philippians 2:10-11

so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Authority established

Mark 1:10-11

And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Overview:

- I. The Authority of Jesus' Words
- II. The Authority of Jesus' Works
- III. Application

Observations from Passage

Mark 1:21

And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching.

- Capernaum - where Matthew the tax collector was
- Synagogue - Jesus regularly attended every Sabbath. An assembly hall where Scriptures were taught. They were established everywhere for worship, teaching, and community gathering. Origin from Israel's history in Babylonian exile.

I. Authority of Jesus' Preaching/Words

Mark 1:22

And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes.

- astonished = struck out of one's mind
 - People marveled at what Jesus said
- not as the scribes
 - Jesus is contrasted with religious leaders of that day
- As one who had authority
 - Authority = out of the original = from the Author
 - Not merely to inform
 - Speaking as One who knew the audience / ones listening

Matthew 7:28-29

And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

Concluding words of Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 7:24-27

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

- Jesus referencing the End Times, where there is a Day of Judgment. Those who ignore God's Words will be destroyed but those who accept and practice will endure and be seen through.

II. Authority of Jesus' Power/Works

Mark 1:23-26

And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him.

- And immediately = clear connection between Jesus preaching and spiritual warfare
- In their synagogue = the man with unclean spirit was within.
- Demons are found within false religion

2 Corinthians 11:14-15

And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

John 8:44-45

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me.

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Spiritual victory through Jesus

1 John 4:4

Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

- he cried out

James 2:19

You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

- But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!”

The result of Jesus power

Mark 1:27-28

And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

- amazed = wonder and awe
- A preview of demon’s ultimate destiny as Jesus has ultimate authority

Revelation 20:10

and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

III. Application

If identify with demonized man (feeling bondage of guilt and shame whether of present or past sins):

- Jesus set the man free in a moment. Delivered the man from brokenness to wholeness.
- Jesus provides a completely new life and new mind.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

If a follower of Jesus and already delivered:

- Be overwhelmed in gratitude and praise for what God has done!
- True gratitude will live thanks.

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places

If observing:

- In humility, submit and pray to be changed from a pathway that ignores God as king but instead be changed
- Pray: Have mercy on me, a sinner!

James 4:10

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.