

Theme: In a single day, Jesus displays His Sovereignty as He teaches with authority, exercises total control over demons, and heals sick people completely.

I. Intro - A Day in the Life of Jesus

- A. Mark 1:21-34 describes one day in Jesus' life
- B. We also have great archaeological finds for this day
- C. Photo 1 of Peter's house and synagogue
- D. Photo 2 of Peter's house and synagogue from above
- E. This view of one day shows Jesus' unique authority

II. The King's Authoritative Teaching

A. Jesus teaches in Capernaum

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. Mark 1:21

1. Jesus and the two sets of brothers are together
2. Mark does not tell us here but Jesus has moved to Capernaum
Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, Matthew 4:13

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. Mark 2:1
3. It is about 20 miles from Nazareth to Capernaum (map)
4. It may even be that Jesus is living in Peter's home, or he may have had his own home.
5. Capernaum is Jesus' base of operations for ministry

B. Jesus teaches in the synagogue on Sabbath

They went to Capernaum, and **when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach.** Mark 1:21

1. "immediately" on the Sabbath they went to the synagogue - εὐθὺς occurs 5 times in this passage - v21, 23, 28, 29, 30
2. Mark wants us to get a sense of the purposefulness of Jesus.
3. This is part of Jesus' life rhythm - gathering with God's people for worship each Sabbath
He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and **on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom.** And he stood up to read. Luke 4:16
 - a. It was Jesus' custom to gather with the people of God for worship each week.
 - b. Mark is giving us a typical Sabbath day in Jesus' life
 - c. Disciples need to learn from and imitate this life rhythm from our Master - we should gather each week with God's people for worship.
 - d. NOTE: Synagogues will have demonized people 7 times in Mark's Gospel, and we will see Jesus in a lot of conflict with the religious authorities in the synagogues, but He still gathered with God's people each week for worship.
 - e. There is NO excuse for not gathering with a local church because it is not as "Spirit-filled" or ideal as we want it to be! Follow the Master and gather with God's people!
 - f. After Hours - Learning from the life rhythms of Jesus

4. Jesus authoritatively teaches the Word of God in the weekly gathered assembly of God's people.

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, **Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach.** Mark 1:21

- a. Visiting rabbis or teachers were often asked to teach
 - b. We are not given the content here, but we know the basic content from Mark 1:14-15.
 - c. Teach or teacher occurs 35 times in Mark, and 33 times it refers to Jesus; 1 time to the disciples; and once it is used in an OT quote. (This does not include other words like "preach" which also are used to refer to Jesus; see Mark 1:14; 38)
 - d. In fact, Jesus is often called "Teacher"
 - e. Teaching the Word of God is the central facet of Jesus' ministry. He performs miracles, heals the sick, and drives out demons, but the central and most important aspect of His ministry was to teach the Word of God (see Mark 1:38)
5. Jesus authoritatively teaches the Word of God in the weekly gathered assembly of God's people.
- The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Mark 1:22
- a. Jesus teaches, but He does so with authority that is surprising to the people.
 - b. His teaching is very different from the "teachers of the law"/scribes
 1. The scribes were highly respected in Jewish society
 2. People would stand aside as they walked by
 3. They will be mentioned 21 times in Mark's Gospel, often with the Pharisees and/or the chief priests, and only in Mark 12:28 are they seen in a positive light.

4. They will be in constant conflict with Jesus and we conspire to put Him to death.

- c. The scribes often referred to the teachings of others and lacked power; Jesus is authoritatively proclaiming the Word of God.
- d. The powerful, authoritative proclamation of the Word of God was the central facet of Jesus' ministry, and it must always be central in the life and ministry of every local church.

III. The King's Authority Over Demons

A. A demonized man cries out as Jesus teaches

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!" Mark 1:23–24

1. Just then - immediately the demon cries out
2. Jesus' authoritative teaching of the Word of God provokes the demon to react with a loud shout - this is no mere whisper or polite interruption!
3. Evil spirit - literally unclean spirit - a demon
4. Mark refers to "evil/unclean spirit" 11x, and to demons 13x in His Gospel. Interestingly these almost all occur in the first half of the Gospel.
5. The Gospel is marked by the conflict between Jesus and the demonic forces of Satan.
6. Interestingly, the demon knows Who Jesus is - the Holy One of God. Others may not know, but the demons recognize that Jesus is the King! This happens in Mark 3:11 (Son of God) and 5:7 (Son of the Most High God) as well.

B. Jesus shows total authority over demons

“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. Mark 1:25–26

1. Jesus does not allow the demon to speak, even though it is recognizing and testifying the truth of Jesus’ identity as the Messianic King.
2. Jesus does not accept Satanic testimony, and He also does not want crowds coming with their own agendas - He will wait to reveal His identity.
3. Jesus simply commands the demon to come out and it obeys immediately. Magicians and others had elaborate rituals and formulas (including smelly things under the nose and invoking a higher spirit’s authority) - Jesus merely issues an authoritative command.

C. The people’s reaction to Jesus’ authority

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.”²⁸ News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee. Mark 1:27–28

1. Once again first note the authority with which Jesus taught. The Word is primary.
2. They note that Jesus backs up His teaching with power over demons - and this amazed the people.
3. As a result, word about Jesus spreads rapidly through the town and the whole region.
4. At this point, the people still do not understand Who Jesus is - but they know He is different and has authority they have never encountered.

IV. The King’s Authority Over Disease

A. Jesus heals Peter’s mother-in-law

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 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. Mark 1:29–31

1. As soon as (immediately); full of action and purpose. It also makes clear that it is still the Sabbath - and Jesus’ healing on the Sabbath will cause controversy later.
2. They go to Peter’s house (next door to the synagogue)
3. Peter’s mother-in-law is sick with a fever.
4. Jesus touches her, raises her off the bed, and she is fully healed (she can even make a meal for them!)
5. This shows Jesus’ authority over the illnesses that arise from the curse - the King has authority over everything!

B. The pattern continues after the Sabbath

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 1:32–34

1. After sunset - the Sabbath has ended so people can travel and come to Jesus for healing

2. People who had heard and seen Jesus at synagogue and those who heard what had happened came with the sick and demonized to have Jesus heal them.
3. This duplicates what had happened on the Sabbath - Jesus healed the sick, drove out demons, and did not let the demons speak.
4. Mark is driving home the point of the total sovereignty of Jesus - He teaches with authority, heals completely, and exercises total control over demons.

V. Applying the Word

A. Do I see the Sovereignty of Jesus?

1. The single day presents Jesus as fully Sovereign in His authoritative teaching, control over demons, and power over sickness.
2. As the hymn says “Jesus doeth all things well!”
3. This is meant to encourage me that NOTHING is outside of His concern or power.
4. Whatever I may face, Jesus is Sovereign over my circumstances and He is never far from me!
5. These are given as signs that Jesus is the Messiah - we do not have the authority to demand that Jesus must speak, heal, or deliver in our preferred time and method.
6. However, we need to stir up faith that Jesus has the authority to speak to us, to free us, to heal us.
7. One of the things God wants to work in our lives through the sufferings and difficulties we face is that we would draw near to Him in faith, looking to Jesus for His Word, His deliverance, His healing.

B. The Table of the King

1. As we come to the Table, look to Jesus for all you need
2. Take a moment to ask Him to speak, deliver, heal, work in whatever way is necessary
3. Come and receive from Your Sovereign King

The Sovereignty of the King

Mark 1:21-34

November 13, 2022

Communion

Philippians 4:19-20

Teaching keywords: Jesus; Christology; Sabbath and rest; Word of God; Satan and demons; healing

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Philippians 4:19–20

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.” 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 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 1:21–34