

Sermon Series:
Who is this man? - The Book of Mark
Sermon Title:
A Teaching with Authority [Sermon #6]
October 9, 2016
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Pray

Introduction:

Remember that in Mark, the battle with Satan isn't just in the wilderness but it continues all throughout the book. It's ongoing.

In our study in Mark, where we are asking 'Who is this man?'

Today we will see:

He has authority to teach.

He has authority over demons.

He has authority over disease.

I. Jesus has authority to teach.

People were simply astonished at his teaching. Why? What was it about it that was so awesome?

A. It was a teaching with AUTHORITY. Greek is 'exousia'. It means ex= out ousia= being or substance. Jesus spoke with substance. He spoke as one who created the idea vs. one who studied the ideas.

Illustration:

If Einstein came to HKUST, would he need to have a bibliography? Would he quote others? No, because his authority on the subject of physics is so respected and deep that he can speak for himself.

B. The Scribes were different. They were teachers of the law of God and experts in the law. Yet, when they spoke they said, “Rabbi so and so says this.” “In my studied opinion...etc deng deng” But Jesus spoke like the prophets of old who said, “Thus saith the Lord”. Actually, he didn’t even say it that way. His authority was beyond that. **WHEN HE SPOKE IT WAS THE LORD SPEAKING.** He was writing the Bible with every breath.

Example: Matthew 5, 6 times Jesus says, “You have heard that it was said....” “But I say to you”. Verses 21,27,31,33,38,43

Read Mark 1:21-22

And they came 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.

C. They people’s response goes beyond ‘astonishment’. They were **disturbed**. There are two ways a person can be astonished. You can be astonished or amazed when you find a box of kittens on the side of the road. Wow. So cute. Amazing to find them. It’s something you’d post on Wechat or Facebook and take photos of and even it would cause you to respond in some way.

Also, if you came upon a LION on the road it would also be astonishing, but in a different kind of way. It would be a disturbing.....kind of astonishment.

Jesus taught as one with authority! **HE STILL HAS IT.**

*Question: Is the Bible the authority for your life?

II. Jesus has authority over demons.

Illustration: First Baptist Church San Francisco. I am leading worship and a man starts dancing in the middle of the floor wildly, kind of making fun of worship. A Deacon comes up and gently asks him to stop and the man pulls out a long screwdriver and is violent.....deng deng....

A. In the Old Testament and in later church history we have very little accounts of demonic possession. It seems that at this time “this time of fulfillment” that hell is launching defensive counter measures. Demons are coming out of everywhere because Jesus has invaded.

B. Jesus is full of the Holy Spirit. Luke 4:14 tells us so. It is as if the ‘unclean’ spirits recognize immediately the Holy Spirit and Jesus. Cleanness meets uncleanness.

‘Why are you here? It’s not time yet?’ The demon was afraid. Then he says, “I know who you are. The Holy One of God.’ Most scholars believe that the demon was trying to gain power over Jesus by knowing his true name. This was a popular strategy in the day. I’m not sure but what we do know is this:

He is afraid. Jesus says, “Shut up. Come out.” and the demon obeys.

no tricks. no dances. no special things or words needed by Jesus to make the demon come out. JUST A WORD.

Read Mark 1:23-26

What was the response of the people? They were amazed by Jesus’ authority. Demons obey him.

C. Do you find it interesting that the demons know more clearly than anyone else who Jesus really is? Who is this man? the demons tell more clearly than men do.

What should we learn from this?

*Knowledge means very little without faith. Faith is what counts. James 1:19 and Matthew 7:21

Knowing the truth of who Jesus is means very little. Many will receive free health care. Many will receive free food...& still not repent and believe.

III. Jesus has authority over disease.

So after 'church' in the morning they head over to Simon's mother in law's house (probably) for a meal.

-This time Jesus heals without a word. Just a lifting of the hand. The fever leaves. (Luke says it's a 'high' fever). No words. Just POWER.

Read Mark 1:29-34

After the Sabbath was over, after sundown, everyone comes to him to be healed and demons are cast out. He healed many people.

Does Jesus still have power to heal?
Does he still have authority over disease?

APPLICATION:

3 dangers in the church I see today from these passages.

1. **THE BIBLE is the authority.** Jesus spoke with authority because his words were God's word. In a world that increasingly sees the Bible as garbage and useless, you can speak with authority only when you speak God's word.

*Watch out for the scribes of today! There are strange teachers talking nonsense. You must know your bibles or you cannot recognize error. This BIBLE is the authority. Test all things. Don't just believe it cause people say it. **CHECK THE BOOK!**

2. **DEMONS have no authority over Christ or the Christian.** Watch out for the teachings of the SCRIBES of our day/ wolves in sheep's clothing. Watch out for strange teachings about demons. Be careful what you listen to. CHECK THE BOOK. The answers for Christians is 'Keep Repenting and Keep Believing the gospel' -NOT try to figure out which demons are hooking onto you or what curses have been laid on your family or what 'negative words' you've spoken. So many seminars and false teachings in HK. Save your money. Read your Bible. Christians cannot be possessed by demons. [Colossians 1:13](#) **Hebrews 2:14-15, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 Cor. 6:19-20, 2 Corinthians 6:14**

3. **Jesus still has authority to HEAL.** Jesus can heal by miracle or by medicine. He doesn't always! Watch out for strange teachings that say its all about FAITH. Sometimes God heals by taking people home. "If the Lord wills....." There seems to be an old teaching around that says that Jesus

doesn't want anyone to be sick. Ever. All of the people who Jesus healed, eventually died.

Jesus Christ has the authority today to tell you to Repent and Believe the gospel. If you have never turned to Christ for salvation, today is the day that you can be born again.

Jesus Christ has the authority today to deliver you from whatever it is that enslaves you.

Jesus Christ has authority today to heal you of any sickness or ailment you might have...

By his grace.....

Let's pray.