

MARK 1:21-28 THE FISHERMEN GET A LESSON ON FISHING.

REVIEW: The most dangerous catch.

VS. 21 JESUS IN THE SYNAGOGUE: read verse

- Capernaum of Galilee is at the northern end of Israel while Jerusalem is at the southern end.
- The Jewish synagogue developed during Israel's exile, when the people were in Babylon after the temple was destroyed.
- Whenever there were at least 10 Jewish men above the age of 12 a synagogue could be organized, then overseen by elders and rulers.
 - Mark 5 tells the raising of Jairus's daughter; he was a ruler of the local synagogue.
- The synagogue was a sort of a Jewish chapel. No priests ministered there, only laymen as it was not the temple.
- The rulers of the synagogue were like elders and deacons or social leaders.
- They also had a civil power and authority similar to a justice of the peace.
- The old testament scriptures were expounded there. The laws of the old testament were taught there and from their teachings religious justice was administered.
- Their services were held twice and sometimes 3 times on the Sabbath, they also gathered on Mondays, and Thursdays.
- It was quite common for several attendees or even strangers to speak.
- It was a practice of Jesus to go to the synagogue on the Sabbath.
- Jesus entered the synagogue and asked questions when just a boy of 12, now as a man He teaches and answers them and with authority.
- It is not recorded what Jesus spoke and taught.

VS. 22 ASTONISHED BY THE AUTHORITY IN WORD: read verse

- Those who heard were astonished, meaning to be struck with panic or shock, to be struck with astonishment to the place of panic and loss of self-possession.
- In our day, "to be blown away, awe struck."
- They were awe struck because Jesus spoke with authority. He spoke with power and conviction from the heart. When He spoke there were results.
- Authority: 103x.. 69X translated power, and 29X Authority.
- It means ability or strength with which one is endued with, the right to exercise power. The power of one whose will and commands must be obeyed by others.
- And here authority is used of our Lord as having that authority in Himself and the people were quick to recognize it.

- Unlike the custom and usual teachings and admonishing's where certain rabbis were quoted and supported, Jesus comes and says, "I say unto you."
- The scribes spoke by quoting others, rabbis etc. borrowing their authority from what others had said. The rabbis quoted from other rabbis and expounded tradition.
- When Christ spoke it was original, it was not information but inspirational, transformational and revelation. He speaks the same today.
- Other teachers explained the law, Jesus is the law giver and heart and life changer
- Others drew waters that they borrowed from cisterns that were cracked and stagnant, while Jesus Himself is the well of pure waters that others may drink of.
- Jesus sets Himself apart from the old group and the people see and notice it.
- As soon as Jesus began to preach He began to work miracles for the confirmation of His doctrine and Person.

VS. 23-24, LESSONS FROM A DEMON: read verses

- Three things certain in these verses, 23, 24, 1) the fierce hatred of the devils for Christ which disowns all relation or connection to Jesus, 2) the wild terror and fear which asks or affirms Christ's destructive power and might over all powers and beings of darkness, 3) finally the recognition of the holiness of Jesus Christ.
- Like all foul things that lurk under stones and scurrying out of sight and light when their cover is lifted.
- The demon speaks from the mouth of the man and it seems he was the first to use the phrase "Jesus of Nazareth."
- Perhaps to minimize or discredit Jesus as it was commonly said, "can anything good come out of Nazareth?"
- Also the prophecies that spoke of the Messiah coming out of Bethlehem.
- This title stayed with Jesus even after His death and resurrection.
 - 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.
 - Mk. 16:6; But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him.
 - (Acts 2:22; Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs...
- The demon confesses both Jesus's humanity, "Jesus of Nazareth," and His divinity, "the Holy One of God."

- The demon also confessed a great fear that Jesus may judge him and send him to the lake of fire. Some men feel the same but will not bow the knee.
- **"Have you come to destroy us?"** Destroy: ap-ol-lu-me.. to destroy utterly. The meaning is not extinction, but total ruin and loss. Not of being but of well-being. Not annihilation, but total overthrow. Loss of everything.
 - Mt. 10:28, And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.
 - Often translated "to perish" Jn. 3:15 & 16, Jn. 10:28
- Notice the pronoun **US** spoken by the demon. Other demons.
- Notice also the demon's attempt to keep Jesus away by sending Him away, "let us alone," but it will be Jesus sending him away.
- The demons and their leader will have nothing to do with the message or mission of Jesus..."What have we to do with Thee?"
- The demon cries from within the possessed man, "let us alone" which is exactly what the world is saying today, "What have we to do with You."
- **Hold your peace:** To be muzzled.
- Demons hate to leave their human dwellings. It is the only way for them to spread their filth and their message of rebellion and evil to the human race.
- Jesus would not have the praises or the acknowledgments of devils, but demanded them to hold their peace.
- Also it is very telling that in the Greek in verse 23 "Now there was a man in their synagogue **WITH** an unclean spirit."
- the word translated "with" is not the correct word as the original has "in", there was a man in their synagogue **IN** an unclean spirit.
- This man was in an unclean spirit, as a Christian is in Christ.
- He was so taken over by the demon that his lives expression was not his but the demons. The devil lived through him.
 - **Rom. 6:16-20.**
- **INTELLECTUAL KNOWLEDGE WILL NOT SAVE:**
- Notice the pathetic lost condition of the demonic spirits that they know who Jesus is, His authority and power over them, power to destroy them, yet they are persistent in their rebellion even while knowing their end is total loss.
- They will not, they cannot repent.
- They knew Who He was and their coming certain future.
 - In **Mark 5:6, 7** we read; When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. ⁷ And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me."

- **Mt. 8:29;** ²⁹ And suddenly they cried out, saying, “What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?”
- These demons all knew Christ, Who He was, and His absolute power over them.
 - James 2:19; You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!
- Mere head knowledge alone of Who Christ is, is useless and by its self it falls eternally short of salvation. Without repentance and faith it is useless.
- Our faith must be a faith of head and heart, soul and mind.
- Real God given knowledge is joined to faith and has a sanctifying influence on our lives.
- It is one thing to say “Christ is a Savior,” or “Christ is the Savior,” but it is quite another thing to say Christ is “my” Savior, and live it.
- Even devils can confess the first.
- The scribes and Pharisees did not know Him, but the devils did, but they were not and will not be saved.
- Just the presence of Christ shook the demon; nothing can stand before the holiness of God.

VS. 25-27 AMAZED BY AUTHORITY OVER THE DEMOIC: **read verses**

- **Jesus takes over!!!**
- **Jesus REBUKED him:** The use of this word is another example of the meticulous and exact accuracy of the Bible writers in the choice of their words, guided by the Holy Spirit, because there are 2 words used in the New Testament both meaning to rebuke.
- The one used here has the meaning to rebuke another, the rebuke failing to bring the offender to acknowledge his sin.
- The other has the meaning, a rebuke that results in a conviction of sin and sometimes a confession of sin by the offender.
- Satan and his demons refuse and are unable to be convicted of their sin, they will not acknowledge their sin, rebellion or repent.
- **“Hold your peace:** “be muzzled.” To stop the mouth, to make speechless.
- Same word used when Jesus calmed the storm, Mark 4:39, He arose and **rebuked** the wind, and said peace be still.
- It is a very strong, sharp command and in our todays speech we would say, “shut your mouth!”
- This is Christ, when He speaks there is authority, power and results.
- **VS. 26,** the devil tears the man, that is he throws a temper tantrum.
- Demons need a host, a body to express their evil.

- **VS. 27** mentions the people remarked about His speaking with authority that even the demons obey His voice. And Luke it adds He spoke with authority and power.
- The people were amazed, that is to be astonished, amazed to be terrified, to be frightened. Their amazement was mingled with fright and terror.
- Vs. 22 uses the word astonished. Which means to be struck with astonishment to the place of panic and loss. Of self-possession.
- These two words; astonished and amazed are a graphic description of the reaction of the synagogue crowd to Christ.
- **HE COMMANDS**: a military term. Was used when setting up an orderly array of troops, to draw up in order of battle.
- Our Lord has the hosts of satan under his absolute power at all times. He can command them at will and they will obey Him.
- The devil operates on a limited tether.
- To the crowd in the synagogue the most astonishing thing was that the demon obeyed Jesus.
- **THEY QUESTIONS AMONG THEMSELVES....** Discussed openly, to dispute, and it was a prolonged discussion/debate.

CONCLUSION: THE FIRST FISH:

- What a convert... see who Jesus goes after first in Marks gospel.
 - "For this reason was the Son of God manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. 1 JN.3:8
- What would this man's life be like now? What joy, what potential, what service.