

MARK 1:35-39 THE SAVIORS SOURCE OF POWER

REVIEW: Read Mk. 1:29-45

- What a difference Jesus made... in the HOUSE and in the TOWN.

INTRO:

- Jesus could not find solitude in the busy and full house of Peter. So He goes forth seeking a place where He can be alone with God.
- We are told to do the same in **Mt. 6:5-6**.
- VS. 36 Simon and the others pursue Him until they find Him, we should do the same.
- Vs. 36; where did they know to find Him, how long did they search for Him. (Followed after Him, to hunt seek out tirelessly)
- VS 37 tell us multitudes were already looking for Him.
- VS. 38 the mention of "next towns" means "country towns, "towns without walls."
- Jesus spent much time in little obscure places. He did not overlook the small "out of the way" places... (Pass my not oh gentle Savior.)
- In these verses we see the Spirit communicating through Marks writing and highlighting 3 core elements of the earthly ministry of Jesus;
 - 1) The proof of His kingship and Messiahship by the miracles which were worked through Him.
 - 2) The power that sustained Him and His ministry came from His personal prayer life and communion with His Father with His dependence on the Holy Spirit.
 - 3) The priority of His ministry was to preach the gospel to the lost so that through faith in Him they might be saved unto everlasting life.
- We will focus on the last two of these 3 key elements.
 - What I have called the "Saviors source of power, and
 - The Saviors pattern of ministry. Prayer and Preaching.

PRAYER; THE SAVIORS SOURCE OF POWER:

- VS. 35: And in the morning having risen a great/long while before daylight. (the last watch, 3:00-6:00)
- Jesus did not have time for prayer..... He had to make time.
- **PRAYER:** The word used as "prayer" here suggest far more than asking, it suggests the going forward in desire to be with God, not for His hand or gifts only, but for God Himself. A consciousness of God' presence and attention.
- It is the word for true worship. The word that describes the soul moving out toward God, desiring Him and then all He has to give.
- Jesus is up early before the business and demands of the day would overtake Him and make unending demands on His time and life.
- Jesus, as a servant Son, sought the personal presence of His Father.

- See **Isa. 50:4-6**
- We need God opened eyes when we pray....
- No man ever has experienced a busier life than He, but Jesus knew the need, importance, necessity, and joy of prayer, and He made it an absolute priority in His life,
- What Jesus needed we cannot do without.
- Can any of us imagine saying before the throne of God and truly say "I spent too much time in prayer."
- Jesus often resorted to a quiet isolated place to pray and commune.
 - Mt. 14:23; And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there.
 - Lk. 6:12, 13; Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. ¹³ And when it was day, He called His disciples to *Himself*; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:
 - Lk. 9:18; And it happened, as He was alone praying, *that* His disciples joined Him, and He asked them, saying, "Who do the crowds say that I am?"
 - Luke 11:1; He was praying in a certain place, and when he ceased, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."
 - John 6:15; Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.
 - John 7:53-8:1; And everyone went to his *own* house. But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.
- Coming from his own experience of private personal prayer, Jesus teaches his disciples to do the same when He taught them to pray.
 - Lk. 9:28, 29; Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe *became* white *and* glistening.
- Think for a moment what constant confrontation with sin, sorrow, sickness and brokenness Jesus daily encountered.
- What stench and rot of sin He had to endure and what it would do to His perfect, holy, tender soul.
- The pain He would feel seeing His perfect creation so distorted and twisted and broken by sin.
- How weary would His tender soul be weighed down and thus His great need for refreshment and encouragement in prayer.
 - **PS.84:2-4**; My soul longs, yea even faints for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Yes the sparrow has found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her

young, even thy altars oh Lord of hosts, My King and My God, blessed are they that dwell in thy house..

- **"He with whom God dwells is never less alone than when alone, for then he enjoys without interruption God in himself and himself in God. Solitude is the mother country of the strong. The true deepening of the spiritual life is better sought in the desert place than in conventions." (Alexander Maclaren.)**
- **Prayer is the true test of a Christian's character and life. Of where he is with God.**
- **Here in our prayer closets spiritual life either decays or flourishes.**
- **May we know what it is to depart to a solitary place.**
- **Jesus had a great dependence on prayer, that is communion with the Father.**
- **His godhead did not render Him independent.**
- **If He who was holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners, prayed much, how much more should we,**
- **If He found it needful and necessary how about we mere infirm men and women?**

CONCLUSION:

- **The KJV says Jesus departed to a desert place and there He prayed.**
 - **Do I pray in my desert places?**
 - **He turns the wilderness into a well of blessing.**
- **"Prayer delights God's ear; and melts His heart." – Thomas Watson**
- **"Satan cannot deny but that great wonders have been wrought by prayer. As the spirit of prayer goes up, so his kingdom goes down." – William Gurnall**
- **"A godly man is a praying man. As soon as grace is poured in, prayer is poured out. Prayer is the soul's traffic with Heaven; God comes down to us by His Spirit, and we go up to Him by prayer." – Thomas Watson**
- **"The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, and prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray." – Samuel Chadwick**
- **"What the church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men who the Holy Spirit can use—men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Spirit does not come on machinery but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men—men of prayer." – E. M. Bounds**