

MARK 6:1-6 THE THIEF OF UNBELIEF

INTRO:

- **Heb. 3:12**
- **Mark 6** brings us up to one year in the public ministry of Jesus.
- **Read: Mark 6:1-6**

VS: 1

Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him.

- **This is not His first visit to His hometown. See **Lk. 4:16-30**.**
- **So this is the record of Jesus' second visit to His hometown.**
- **After Jesus' recent glorious campaign over the demonic, the diseased, the dead and His teachings on the kingdom of God.**
- **Those recent miracles of calming the storm and the waves, delivering a demoniac, the healing of the woman suffering for 12 years with the issue of blood, and the raising from the dead the little 12 year old daughter of Jairus, He returns to His home town.**
- **What will be His homecoming?**
- **The distance from Capernaum to Nazareth was about 25 miles a strong days walk.**
- **Why then go back? A second chance, to break through their unbelief?**

VS: 2

² And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying, "Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands!"

- **On the Sabbath He teaches in the synagogue of Nazareth where the hearers are amazed, besides themselves at His authority, wisdom and power.**
- **They were not ignorant of His mighty works and fame.**
- **By their questions they acknowledge He has wisdom, and miracle working power.**
- **They do not argue or doubt that He did these marvelous things. They did not have to be convinced that through Him these things came about, but how, and from what source?**
- **For we know Him and He is not a prophet, He is not the promised Messiah, He is not God.**
- **But they cannot grasp that these mighty things are coming from the Carpenter.**
- **These things are reserved in their minds for some great man from the schools of Jerusalem.**

- From someone with great political and governing power, not the common Nazarene whom they have known for years. Watching Him grow up before their eyes.
- They basically ask 3 questions about Him.
 - 1) Where did this man get these things? (What things?)
 - 2) What wisdom is this that is given to Him, (where did it come from?)
 - 3) How through His hands are such mighty works performed.
- Would they attribute them to God, (Nicodemus) or like the scribes to satan?
 - Mk. **3:22** He does these things by Beelzebub the prince of demons.
 - Mark **3:31** His family is there to hear this and perhaps others of the multitude were also from Nazareth.
- I believe they were willing to attribute His attributes to Satan.
- His power and wisdom could only come from one of two sources, God or Satan, and we know He is not the Son of God..
- Jesus answers their question in JN. 5:36, & 7:16
 - The Source of His wisdom; Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me
 - The Source of His works: But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish—the very works that I do—bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me.

VS: 3

³ Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they were offended at Him.

- Here we see unbelief born out of over familiarity. For over familiarity had prejudiced their thought about Him.
- They stumble over their over familiarity of Him.
- Is He not the carpenter?
- Is He not the son of Mary? The only time this title is spoken or recorded in the bible. (This may be derogatory.)
- In Mt. 13:55 they acknowledge Him as the "carpenters son."
- In John 8:41 they accuse Him of being born of fornication, out of wedlock.
- They say we know His brothers and Sisters. (None of them are like Him.)
- They could only know Him in their flesh, not by eye of faith.
- They grew up with Him, watched Him grow and work. Just a carpenter.
- They measured their Messiah by their own stature, making God in their image. He is just one of us. No better than us. Like us.
- Because of their false conclusion and assumption they are offended and tripped up in believing the truth of who Jesus is.
- They cannot, will not accept the truth of what their consciences tell them.
- London and Spurgeon, London and Moody.

- They had hardened their hearts and no amount of miracles would move them to believe. They were frozen in unbelief and to their prejudice.
- Their real problem is that they were not willing to do the will of God regardless of the cost.
 - **JN.7:14-16, 20**
- They did not want to do the will of God, to pay the cost.
- They were not willing to let another be Master over their lives.
- They must stay in control...
- Jesus can reach the man, the woman or child who is willing to follow His divine authority and his word. There is no limit to what He can do.

VS: 4

⁴ But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, (city,) among his own relatives, and in his own house." (3 circles)

VS: 5

⁵ Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them.

- The result of their unbelief is that Jesus could do not might works there.
- Now notice this about the power of Jesus.
- Their unbelief did not paralyze the power of Jesus to heal, but it did paralyze their ability to receive.
- This seemingly inability for Jesus to bring healing to crowds in Nazareth did not, or was not, due to some lack of power in Jesus.
- But in the outworking of their unbelief, as none would come to Him seeking relief, except a few and to them the power of healing was exercised. He was able to do wonders yet.
- Jesus had the power, they did not, would not, believe and act.
 - How? Because they did not believe, they would not come forward and ask.
- James 4:2; you do not have because you do not ask.
 - Many how had no faith were healed by Jesus.
 - The lame man at the pool of Bethesda, Jn. 5
 - The man born blind in Jn. 9
 - The demoniacs He delivered we incapable of believing.
 - Lazarus and the widow's son, and the 12 year old daughter of Jairus, none believed for they were all dead.
- But their unwillingness to act on the knowledge and come to Christ prevented them from receiving what only Jesus could give them.
- What an example for us not to fall into the trap of over familiarization of Christ and His benefits, and thus lose the awe of God and with the awe, the blessing of God!

VS: 6

⁶ And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

- **Jesus marveled “because” of their unbelief not at their unbelief.**
- **He is amazed that they should be so dull in believing in the face of so many absolute proofs.**
- **The N.T. only mentions Jesus being marveled or amazed twice. Both times has to do with having faith or the lack of it.**
 - **Mt. 8:10; When Jesus heard *it*, He marveled, and said to those who followed, “Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!**
- **And here regarding Nazareth’s unbelief:**
- **God wonders, marvels at unbelief. **Jer. 2:11-13****
- **What a penetrating thought, does Christ marvel at our faith or unbelief?**
- **Jesus never returned to Nazareth.**

CONCLUSION:

- **In has unbelief taken root in my life?**
 - **In the providence of God? Do I hold to the truth that all things work together.....**
 - **Do I doubt the faithfulness of God? Heb. 13, I will never leave you or forsake you.**
 - **Do I find as Paul found, His grace is sufficient for me? 2 Cor. 12,**
 - **The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want. PS. 23**
 - **Do we believe that God hears and acts in our prayers? That He answers according to His infinite wisdom and our good?**
 - **Ps. 50:15; Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”**
 - **Isa. 65:24; “It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear.**
 - **Do we believe that the power of the gospel is enough to save regardless of the depth of need?**
 - **Rom. 1:16, For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ. For it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes**
 - **Do I believe in the power of the blood of Jesus to save and cleanse from all sin regardless of its depth? Isa. 1:18, 1 JN. 1:9**
- **Is Christ calling me to something and my unbelief or self-preservation is holding my back from His blessing?**
- **Is He asking me to go deeper, to a greater abandonment?**

CLOSING HYMN: HE WILL HOLD ME FAST