

The Miracles Of Jesus

The Synagogue's Unclean Spirit

(Mk 1:21-28)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Morning,
 - a. Greetings...
 2. Series of lesson on "The Miracle Of Jesus."
 - a. Last week we looked at "The Official's Son."
 - i. [Jn 4:46-54](#)¹
 - b. This week we will be looking into "The Synagogue's Unclean Spirit."
 - i. [Lk 4:31-37; Mk 1:21-28](#)
 3. We need to make sure we don't lose sight of the goal of these lessons.
 - a. To strengthen our faith that Jesus is our Christ.
 - b. To strengthen our resolve to stay faithful unto death because Jesus is our Christ.
 4. Jesus is in his hometown of Capernaum where he heals a man of demon possession.
 - a. Demon possession is something that started incarnate Christ.
 - i. We don't find it until Jesus comes to earth.
 - b. Demon possession is something that ended with the age of miracles.
 - i. [Ze 13:2](#)
 5. With this in mind let us observe our text today.
- I. **The Miracle In The Synagogue**
- A. Jesus in Capernaum
 1. He goes from Nazareth "down" to Capernaum.
 - i. Nazareth being about a 40 mile hike to Capernaum.
 2. This being Jesus' home, it becomes the center of His work in Galilee.
 - B. Jesus teaches in the Synagogue.
 1. The presiding Jewish elder, after the reading of the Scriptures, would invite anyone to speak.
 - i. [Ac 13:15](#)
 - a. Jesus used this opportunity to teach.
 1. [Jn 18:20](#)
 - C. Jesus teaches with authority
 1. Jewish Rabbis & Scribes would teach the OT by using the "Oral Torah."
 - i. This is the "Talmud."
 - a. "In addition to the written scriptures we have an "Oral Torah," a tradition explaining what the above scriptures mean and how to interpret them and apply the Laws."²
 - ii. Jesus taught not from the Talmud but from His understanding of the Scriptures.
 - a. He didn't rely on past commentary from other rabbi's or scribes.

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

² Judaism 101 (<http://www.jewfaq.org/m/torah.htm>)

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- D. Jesus is interrupted by a demon possessed man.
 - 1. This man apparently had periodic episodes of demon possession.
 - i. This man would not be allowed to be in the synagogue if his possession was continual.
 - 2. This man cried out...
 - i. **Lk 4:34** “Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.”
 - ii. **Mk 1:24** “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.”
 - a. **Ja 2:19** “You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!”
- E. Jesus responded to the unclean demon/spirit
 - 1. Jesus rebuked the demon.
 - i. “Be silent and come out of him!”
- F. The unclean spirit’s reaction
 - 1. He threw the man he possessed down and put into convulsions.
 - i. The word “convulsing”
 - a. ASV – Tearing him
 - b. KJV – Torn him
 - c. NIV – Shook him
 - 1. The idea is epileptic seizures.
 - i. **Mt 17:15**
 - 2. Though the man was thrown into a seizure he was not harmed.
- G. The crowd’s reaction
 - 1. “What is this word/ new teaching? He commands the unclean spirits with authority and power.”
 - i. They realized they were witnessing someone doing something more than just marveling them. He was teaching them anew.
 - a. They had magicians for that.
- H. Thus...
 - 1. The people knew “the real McCoy” when they witnessed it.
 - i. Jesus was “new” not like those that taught before Him.

II. The Lessons Learned

- A. We need to make sure we are not teaching man’s traditions over God’s traditions
 - 1. What set Jesus’ teaching apart from the other scribes and rabbis was that He was not just saying “this is the traditional view.”
 - i. As Christian teachers we must not teach our opinions but rather we are to speak only the “oracles of God.”
 - a. **I Pt 4:11**
- B. We need to make sure we are not taking man’s traditions over God’s traditions
 - 1. These people in the synagogue heard Jesus and listened to him but they did not “verify” what He said it appears.
 - i. As Christian students we must hear and verify what is being taught that means studying what is taught for ourselves.
 - a. **Ac 17:11**

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- C. We need make sure we are ready to contend for the faith
 - 1. Though Jesus was not rebuking the demon for falsehood He was quick to recognize the need for correction.
 - i. We need to make certain we are “always” ready to defend God and His Word.
 - a. **I Pt 3:15; Jd 3**
- D. Thus...
 - 1. As children of God we ought to be seeking the tradition handed down by God (**II Th 3:6**) and not that of any other.

CONCLUSION

- 1. Brethren as we continue on our study through these great miracles of Jesus I pray they...
 - a. Strengthen your faith in Jesus as your Christ.
 - b. Strengthen your resolve to live for the crown of righteousness because Jesus is your Christ.
- 2. Question: Are you steadfast in your Christ’s traditions or those traditions of human origin?
 - a. If you are steadfast in Christ’s traditions than continue therein and grow thereby.
 - b. If you have been steadfast in human origin than make the change now before it is too late!!!
- 3. Invitation
 - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent and confess your transgression before God so He can forgive you and bear fruit of repentance by dedicating the rest of your life for Him.
 - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”
 - b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required for you to become a child of God.
 - i. Hear/Study God’s Word **Rom 10:17**
 - ii. Have Faith In Jesus **Heb 11:6; Jn 3:16; Jn 14:15**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:3**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32**
 - v. Obey The Gospel **I Cor 15:1-4; Rom 6:3-5**