

SEEING CHRIST THROUGH the EYES of MARK

The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem | Mark 11 | 12.16.18

Mark 11

The Triumphal Entry	11:1-11
The Cursing of the Fig Tree	11:12-14
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Zechariah 9:9 *“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and **riding on a donkey**, A colt, the foal of a donkey.*

Mark 11:15-19 *So they came to Jerusalem. Then Jesus went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. ¹⁶And He would not allow anyone to carry wares through the temple. ¹⁷Then He taught, saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’” ¹⁸And the scribes and chief priests heard it and **sought how they might destroy Him; for they feared Him**, because all the people were astonished at His teaching. ¹⁹When evening had come, He went out of the city.*

- **People like truth** when it enlightens their minds; they resist truth and revise it when it exposes their lives.
- As followers of Christ, we should be able to entertain opposing ideas without fearing them or embracing them.
- The firmer the grasp we have on the gospel, the better we can work through opposing ideas.

²⁵ *“And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. ²⁶But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”*

- Prayers are worthless if you have un-forgiveness in your heart.

Ephesians 4:32 *And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.*

- The basis of forgiveness has nothing to do with people deserving it, but it has everything to do with what God did for us through Jesus Christ. The greater the offense against us, the greater God is glorified when we forgive and return good for evil.

- God takes our forgiveness of others very seriously, and, when we withhold it, God disciplines His children in numerous and severe ways. (re: **Matthew 18**)
- Why does God take a lack of our forgiveness to others so seriously? Because it counters everything that Jesus is and everything he did on the cross.

Mark 11:29-33 *But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one question; then answer Me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things: ³⁰ The baptism of John—was it from heaven or from men? Answer Me." ³¹ And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ³² But if we say, 'From men' "—they feared the people, for all counted John to have been a prophet indeed. ³³ So they answered and said to Jesus, "We do not know. And Jesus answered and said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.*

- Very few people within and without the context of the church really want all the truth. Most people want enough truth to justify their actions and soothe their conscience.
- **People like truth** when it enlightens their minds; they resist truth and revise it when it exposes their lives.

John 1:29 *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*

Truth telling is non-optional! (adapted by Steve Gallagher)

This single step can be very discouraging for all parties involved in the rebuilding process. The main reason people lie is fear, fear of the consequences, fear of what people may think about them. We all want to slant the story to improve our image and rarely does a person want to come completely clean. Telling the truth *doesn't* mean graphic details need to be shared and every sinful thought revealed. If you are *not* being honest to your spouse you are setting yourself up for another fall, which will complicate recovery and trust in a huge way. In **John chapter 8**, the words of Christ tell us that ***the truth shall make us free***. (Freedom is the power to do what you know you ought to do, most people know what they ought to do, but they do not have the power to do it – they are in bondage!) **Simply put, lies place us and keep us in bondage. Some Christians have become a master of having a secret world of lies.** The sad reality is this, they are not the master at all; sin is the master. Re: **Romans 6:16**

"Darkness of mind signifies the lack of light in a person's thinking. The more a person gives himself over to the power of sin, the harder he grows toward God. He may still attend church, sing all of the songs of worship, and even enjoy good preaching, but there is a thick callous around his heart that keeps him from feeling the Holy Spirit nudge him toward repentance. The more a person sins, the thicker that callous grows. Eventually he will find himself so hardened that he can no longer discern truth for himself. Although he is likely to still have some comprehension for doctrinal truth, ***the truth has been effectively shut out of his heart.*** " Steve Gallagher

Honesty has two Biblical ingredients within it: (1) confession (2) repentance

Pro. 28:13, 2Tim 2:25-26, 1Jn 1:6-2:1 To separate these two is to sabotage any hope for recovery.

My Spiritual Assignment | Review and Prepare

This week, prayerfully read **Mark 11** and review the study guide. Then, read **Mark 12** for the 12.30.18 sermon. **Sunday 12.23.18 will be a message on the Birth of Christ.**