

Mark 2

Mark 2.1-7

- V1** – This chapter begins to show the opposition to Jesus from the Pharisees
-**What town became the headquarters for Jesus while he was in Galatia?** Capernaum
-**What had happened to his reputation?** It had spread far and wide
- V2** – **What was the scene at the house where he was preaching?** People were packed in
-Notice the use of "the word" – singular, to represent the gospel of Christ
- V3** – **Who brought the paralyzed man to Jesus?** Four men
-**What must have been the attitude of these four men?** That they loved their friend and believed that Jesus could heal him
- V4** - **What problem did they have?** There were so many people that they could not get their friend in to see Jesus
-**So what did they do?** Took up part of the roof and let the man down in front of Jesus
-*Luke 5.19* – indication that they took up the tiles on the roof
- V5** – Yes, they did have great faith
-Most of us would not have risked such a move in front of so many people
-**But what did Jesus do first?** Forgave the man of his sins
-**What is the message there?** Having sins is far worse than being paralyzed
-We should be more concerned about being right with God than being comfortable in this life
- V6** – **What kind of people were in the audience?** Scribes
- V7** – **What was their comment?** No-one can forgive sins but God
-**Was their reasoning correct?** Yes, only God can forgive sins
-**But what was not correct about their thinking?** That Jesus was not God

Mark 2.8-13

- V8** – **What power did Jesus have?** To read the thoughts of people
- V9** – **What other power did Jesus have?** To forgive sins and to heal the sick
-So it didn't matter to Christ – As God he could do both things with ease
-**Is Jesus God?** Yes – one part of the Godhead, so he could forgive sins
- V10** – **What did they need to know?** That Jesus had the power to forgive sins
- V11** – **What did Jesus say to the man?** Arise and take up your pallet and go home
- V12** – **What word is so characteristic of Mark in this verse?** Immediately, a fast-paced person
-**What was the reaction of the crowd to this miracle?** They began glorifying God
-**What do you think the scribes were doing?** Planning on how to trap Jesus

V 13 – The crowds were following him wherever he went

-This miracle is typical of what Mark liked to record in his account of the life of Jesus

Mark 2.14-17

V 14 – **How many Apostles had been called at this time?** Four: Peter, Andrew, James, John (*Mark 1.29*)

-This passage describes the call of Matthew to be an Apostle [See any standard Bible dictionary for proof that Matthew was also known as Levi]

-**What was Matthew doing when Jesus found him?** Collecting taxes

-We know that an ancient road passed through Capernaum, so Matthew was collecting taxes there for the Roman Empire

V 15 – It looks as if Matthew threw a big dinner after his conversion to Jesus, so that he could tell his friends about his faith in Christ

-**Who were invited to the dinner?** Tax-collectors and sinners

-**What was the result of the dinner?** Many were converted to Jesus

V 16 – **What was the reaction of the Pharisees to this dinner?** Disgust and arrogance

V 17 – **What was the reaction of Jesus?** He came to heal sick people

-**Message to the Pharisees?** They were sick, but didn't know it – people have to realize that they are sick before they can be helped

-Lessons from this passage: We should be evangelistic with our friends

Mark 2.18-22

V 18 – **Why were the disciples of John fasting?** Possibly because he was already dead; they did not feel that a celebration was proper

-**Why were the Pharisees fasting?** To be seen by others

-**What question did the Pharisees have for Jesus?** Why were his disciples not fasting?

V 19 – **When do people have a big feast at a wedding? After the bride and groom have left for their honeymoon?** No, while they are still there

V 20 – The day would come when Christ would be taken away from them

V 21 – Two parables here for the Pharisees to think about

-**First, if we have an old shirt with a hole in it, would we sew a brand new piece of material on it to fix the hole?** No, because when it is washed, the new material will shrink and tear away from the old garment

V 22 – **No-one puts new wine in an old wineskin – Why?** Because it does not give and expand; it will burst

-**Lesson here?** The Old Covenant was passing away; it could not be repaired

-The New Covenant is very different from the Old Covenant

-**Lesson here?** The New Testament was not just a new version of the Old Testament

-A great change was coming

- Many denominational churches take what they like about the Old Testament (the priesthood, instrumental music, incense, robes, special ceremonies, etc.)
- But the Old Law died with Jesus on the cross (*Col. 2.14*)

Mark 2.23-28

- V 23** – **What had the Pharisees already gotten upset about concerning Jesus?** He did not have the right to forgive sins, he made friends with the outcasts of the world, and his disciples did not fast
- What were the disciples doing on this Sabbath Day?** Walking through a field and picking heads of wheat to eat
 - What did the Law of Moses say about this? Read Exodus 20.8-11**

- V 24** – **What were the Pharisees upset about?** The disciples were doing something that was "unlawful" (in the eyes of the Pharisees)
- In other words, the disciples were violating the traditions of the Pharisees
 - They thought that picking a few heads of grain was the same as bringing in the harvest

- V 25** – Jesus began to reply to them
- What Old Testament person did Jesus remind them of?** David (their hero)

- V 26** – **What had David and his men done?** *1 Sam. 21.1-7* – had eaten the bread of the Law (which was supposed to be eaten only by the priest)
- Notice that Jesus said that what David did was not lawful (Jesus was not endorsing situation ethics)
 - However, David was still a hero of the Pharisees
 - Jesus was pointing out a flaw in their theology
 - But what the disciples of Jesus did was just a violation of the traditions of the Pharisees
 - Jews today: set ovens to come on Saturday (because turning the knob might be considered work)
 - On a campaign that we were on several years ago in Montreal, we stayed in a hotel owned and operated by Jewish people – On Saturday, they had a program to run the elevators constantly and to open at every floor, so they didn't have to "work" by pushing the elevator buttons on the Sabbath

- V 27** – **Why did God design the Sabbath anyway?** To give mankind a day of rest (one day a week)

- V 28** – **Besides, what kind of power did Jesus have over the Sabbath?** Total authority over the Sabbath

Revised 2012-12-25