

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 03 Mar	Mark 01	Calls
2) 10 Mar	Mark 02	Forgives
3) 17 Mar	Mark 03-04	Unites
4) 24 Mar	Mark 05	Restores
5) 31 Mar	Mark 06	Sends
6) 07 Apr	Mark 07	Includes
7) 14 Apr	Mark 08-09	Commands
8) 21 Apr	Mark 15	Saves
9) 28 Apr	Mark 10	Serves
10) 05 May	Mark 11-12	Purifies
11) 12 May	Mark 13	Promises
12) 19 May	Mark 14	Prepares
13) 26 May	Mark 15-16	Lives

INTRODUCTION

- The Gospel of Mark seems to be the 1st of the Gospels to be written
- The other synoptic gospels (Matthew and Luke) seem to use Mark's narratives to develop some of their story lines
- Early church tradition states that John Mark (who deserted Paul and Barnabas on Paul's 1st missionary journey) wrote this Gospel while in Rome with Peter, early A.D. 60s
- **Reason to compile a Gospel.** It is 30 years after the Lord's crucifixion/resurrection, the Church is being persecuted to extinction, the Apostles and other eye witnesses are dying off, & believers need confirmed evidence to base their faith on
- **Major Emphasis in Mark.** Mark hits his readers early and often with Jesus' credentials for being the one and only Messiah through his miracles. Mark doesn't just state the facts, he substantiates them.
- **5 Healings in Chapter 1.** There are 5 healings in just the 1st chapter. The very 1st healing Mark mentions is of a demonic person sitting in church. Then Christ healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever, Then He healed a large crowd of EVERY AILMENT. Then he healed other demoniacs in churches. Then He healed a lone leper. And that was just the 1st week of His 3-year ministry. The only thing that was more important than all those grandiose healings was His teaching. After all, a supernatural healing is only temporary, BUT it is the teaching of sound doctrine that has eternal impact.

Passage	Comments
Mark 1:1-8	<p>John the Baptist Introduces Jesus the Christ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark quickly begins with quoting from Isaiah 40:3 to substantiate John the Baptist as the voice crying in the wilderness to herald the coming of the Messiah • What is the significance of John's baptism for repentance as compared to Jesus' baptism? • What is the baptism of the Holy Spirit? 1Cor 12:13 • Would those who were baptized by John need to be rebaptized? Acts 18:25-27; 19:3-6
1:9-11	<p>Jesus Gets Baptized – WHY?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark presents Jesus being baptized in a very short, matter-of-fact snippet (3 vss) – no explanation of why • Matthew elaborated on why Jesus needed to be baptized – "...to fulfill all righteousness." Mat 3:13-17 • Luke reported John's imprisonment before describing the baptism of Jesus • Fortunately, all 4 gospels stated the superiority of Jesus over John the Baptist – "His sandals I am not worthy to untie" • If we only had Mark's account of the baptism of Jesus, we might walk away with the following misperceptions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus needed cleansing from sin 2. Jesus might have become the Son of God at His baptism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Hence the need for the whole counsel of God

Passage	Comments
1:12-20	<p>Jesus Begins His Ministry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 days in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Again, Mark just states the facts with no elaboration • 4 disciples are called – Simon & Andrew, James and John – all relatively wealthy fishermen since they had hired servants
1:21-28	<p>First healing – A Demonic in Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus has control over the demonic forces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Do demon-possessed people still exist today? And can they be released from their demons? ♦ No Scriptural reason to say NO to either question • Why would Jesus want to be secretive?.....vv24, 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Possibly due to the fact people were not ready to hear the naked truth just yet ♦ Illustration. We are not ready to understand calculus until we first learn some more basic elements of math – precept upon precept
1:29-31	<p>Second healing – Peter's Mother-in-Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus had compassion on a friend. • v31. Plus, she had to get up to make them dinner
1:32-34	<p>Third healing – All Who Were Brought to Him</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus can do it all – 100% healings for everyone of everything, every time, and everywhere • Modern day faith healers and miracle workers cannot attest to such a feat. Their healings are hit & miss psycho-somatic healings at best
1:35-39	<p>Jesus Was an Early Bird</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus makes time for God – rising early in the morning to find a quiet place to pray
1:38-39	<p>Fourth Healing – Casting out More Demons in Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v38. Notice the main purpose Jesus had was not healing people, but teaching them • v39. Where did Jesus find most demoniacs? In church <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Isn't that where we should find troubled souls? What a better place to find help – true help – than in church ♦ Shame on us if we cannot give people true healings from their most besetting problems today, such as, Addictions, Depression, Financial woes, and Failed marriages and relationships to name a few ♦ Other besetting problems: _____ • Note. Wealth was the prime factor for sin in the lives of the Israelites during Ezekiel's day Ezek 7:19

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Thanks to Shane Blanchard (See 2Thessalonians 3:10) 08-05-2002

DON'T HEAL ME ... I'VE GOT GREAT DISABILITY

Passage	Comments
1:40-45	<p>Fifth Healing – A Lone Leper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note. This leper would have been the only leper recorded in the Bible to go through the ceremonial cleansing process – and it would have been a powerful witness to the priest of Jesus' credentials • If this leper was in advanced stages of Hansen's disease he might have had deformed or missing fingers and toes, even ears and nose. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ v42. Notice that "immediately" the leper was healed. This was a supernatural event since time was circumvented, and possibly restoration of missing digits (fingers & toes) ♦ So, why did Jesus tell the leper not to tell anyone? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Possibly to slow down His fame (crowds can be unruly and unteachable at times, if inflamed) 2. Possibly so the Jewish priests would have untarnished evidence of a healed leper to investigate (IOW, the leper would have been standing before the priests alone without clamoring witnesses) 3. Or, did Jesus use reverse psychology to greatly market His abilities and draw even larger crowds? (This is the weakest reason, for Jesus would not use deceptive means to manipulate people). and we will see in Mark 6:31 that Jesus and His disciples didn't even have time to eat because of the crowds
Ceremonial Cleansing of a Leper found in Leviticus 14:2-23.	<p>The Law. The offering was two living, clean birds, some cedar wood, with scarlet and hyssop, which were to be brought for his cleansing; and, when clean, two male lambs, one ewe lamb, three tenth deals of flour, and one log of oil; but if the person was poor, then he was to bring one lamb, one tenth deal of flour, one log of oil and two turtle doves, or young pigeons</p> <p>The Purpose. This leper is the only one recorded in the Bible supernaturally healed and ceremonially cleansed in this fashion. The Jewish priests would have immediately realized, because of verifiable evidence, that a God-ordained, Moses-like prophet was in their midst</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus healed with a touch • He healed with a word • He healed large groups • He healed selectively (His prerogative) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ E.g., One lame man at the Pool of Bethesda ♦ Note. Jesus did not heal any others at the Pool of B. since no one came to Him. They preferred to wait for the stirring of the water. If the other invalids had recognized Jesus and went to Him for a healing, no doubt, Jesus would have healed them. • He healed remotely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Roman centurion's servant ♦ Capernaum official's son ♦ Syro-Phoenician's daughter • He healed the ungrateful <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 9 out of 10 lepers • He healed when faith was present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ All those who touched Him ♦ "Your faith has made you well" • He healed when faith was not present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The Widow's son at Nain (no one asked Him)
How Did Jesus Heal and Who Did He Heal?	

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He healed when faith was weak <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Father of the "lunatic" boy • He healed for convenience sake <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Peter's mother-in-law so she could feed them • He healed within the synagogue • He healed outside of the synagogue • He healed the easy ones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Peter's mother-in-law's fever • He healed the hard ones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Lazarus after 4 days in the grave • He healed out of compassion • He healed out of compulsion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Royal Official's son in John 4 • He healed sinners • He healed believers • He healed unbelievers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Blind man in John 9, and demoniacs • He healed foreigners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Syro-Phoenician's daughter (a Canaanite) • In essence, Jesus instantaneously healed EVERYONE who came to Him, and then some... • The only ones Jesus could not and did not heal were those who did not come out to him because of their ignorance or willful unbeliefMark 6:1-5 • Yet, where did Jesus perform most of His miracles? In unrepentant towns Mat 11:20; 13:58; Lk 10:13

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

Is God Healing Supernaturally Today?

- We have to acknowledge God works in different ways at different times[1Cor 12:11](#); [Heb 1:1](#); [2:3-4](#)
- The world will see supernatural miracles and wonders once again when the two witnesses identified in [Revelation 11](#) appear on the scene, but they will only be around for 1,260 days (3 ½ years).
- If supernatural healings, miracles, and other wonders truly occurred throughout Church history and up until the time of these 2 witnesses, then the miracles of these 2 witnesses would not seem so unusual.

NEXT WEEK: [Mark 2](#). Mark records a paralytic healing, the calling of Levi to the ministry, & a response to who's really in charge around here



If God is not instantaneously and supernaturally healing the tough cases today, what makes us think He's supernaturally healing the easier cases? Bad doctrine brings false hope and little to no comfort.