

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 03 Sep Mark 01 Introduced
- 2) 10 Sep Mark 02 Proclaimed
- 3) 17 Sep Mark 03-04 Questioned
- 4) 24 Sep Mark 05-06 Satisfies
- 5) 01 Oct Mark 07 Includes
- 6) 08 Oct Mark 08 Followed
- 7) 15 Oct **Mark 09 Strengthens**
- 8) 22 Oct Mark 10 Serves
- 9) 29 Oct Mark 11-12 Clears
- 10) 05 Nov Mark 13 Returning
- 11) 12 Nov Mark 14 Willing
- 12) 19 Nov Mark 15 Sacrificed
- 13) 26 Nov Mark 16 Alive

INTRODUCTION

- These 50 verses convey Jesus is still frustrated with His disciples (“How much longer am I going to be with you guys?”); there are times to keep secrets; and the ability to serve the Lord and help people out of the grip of Satan is not rocket science – anyone should be able to do it.

Passage	Comments
Mark 9:1-13	<p>The Transfiguration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v2. Jesus only took His inner circle of friends, Peter, James, & John. Why such a small crowd for a big vision? • v9. And they were to keep the vision secret till after He rose from the dead. Why the temporary secrecy?
9:14-29	<p>Casting Out Demons is Not Rocket Science!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Mark 6:7, Jesus gave the Apostles authority to heal everyone of everything, including demonic possession, so why was the demon in this boy different? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Jesus’ comment “O faithless generation, how much longer am I going to be with you” conveyed this should not have been hard to do. So, what did they miss? ♦ Answer. They needed to take Praying more seriously ♦ Also, Jesus was so frustrated with this generation (incl. His disciples) He was possibly saying “Just kill me know and get it over with!” • Jesus essentially told His disciples and others in hearing range, “Guys, this is not Rocket Science. Anyone can cast out Satan and his horde of demons with faith no larger than the size of a mustard seed!” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Mat 17:20 "Because of your little faith; I truly say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; & nothing will be impossible to you." ♦ His Yoke is Easy, His Burden is Light (Mat 11:30) ♦ Mat 10:1-8. Jesus gave the Apostles the same “authority.” They had to cast out demons and heal the sick of anything and everything, anytime and every time, anywhere and everywhere they went. The faith these men had was nothing to brag about. Even Judas, the Son of Perdition, was able to heal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The power to heal was not in them, but in God
More on Demonic Activities	<p>Satan has permission from God to Torment through Oppression, Obsession, and Possession</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scripture does not teach demonic Oppression, Obsession, and Possession have stopped. So we need to be prepared. • There is no indication from Scripture Satan can possess believers, but he can impede or hinder our progress as affirmed by Apostle Paul 1Thes 2:18 • Satan’s main strategy to thwart God’s plan for mankind’s redemption is through deception..... Rev 13:14 • Though Scripture states Satan and his demons can seemingly work “great wonders” & miracles (Rev 13), yet Scripture calls them “Lying Wonders” 2Thes 2:9

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are varying levels of demonic powers from testing (Jesus, Peter, and you and me), tormenting (Job & Paul), enticing (Judas), and possessing people (demoniacs), to manipulating entire nations (Dan 10, Rev 18:23) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Know this however, when it comes to plagues and pestilences, Scripture is clear only God sends national and global pandemics Hab 3:5; Rev 6:8 • The greatest weapon we have against Satan is to draw near to God through willful obedient submission (e.g., praying & fellowship), then Satan must flee James 4:7-8
9:30-37	<p>To Be First – Be Last</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv30-31. “...and He did not want anyone to know their whereabouts in Galilee” – WHY? Possibly, Christ wanted some quality time to convey some hard teachings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Principle to Live By. Guard your quiet time ♦ Another Principle to Live By. To have JOY in your life, put Jesus first, Others next, Yourself last
9:38-41	<p>Other Partners in Ministry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will see people from many denominations in Heaven. ALL paths DO NOT lead to Heaven, but God uses people who have a heart to serve HIM regardless of an affiliation • God doesn’t wait till our doctrines are perfect before He can use us. So, show grace and allow others to serve differently. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BUT are there any belief systems barred from Heaven due to their false doctrine? <input type="checkbox"/> Jehovah Witnesses? <input type="checkbox"/> Hindus? <input type="checkbox"/> Mormons? <input type="checkbox"/> Buddhists? <input type="checkbox"/> Baptists? <input type="checkbox"/> Methodists? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Remember – It is sound doctrine that saves .. 1Tim 4:16
9:42-48	<p>Go to the Extreme to Avoid Hell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v42. How does one cause a “little one” to stumble? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Example: Abused kids become abusive adults • vv43-48. Cut off or pluck out body parts to keep out of Hell. Of course, this is figurative language to convey how seriously we should seek after Heaven. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Matthew conveys a positive perspective, ‘...upon finding a pearl of great value [i.e., Heaven], he sold all that he had and bought it’ Mat 14:46
9:49-50	<p>Be Salty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salt is a preservative, enhances flavor of food, and makes one thirsty for water • Spiritually then, we should be a preserver of society’s morals, portray Christ in a favorable light, and make people thirsty for our Savior. How do we do this? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Be at peace with one another” Love, Peace, & Unity do have priority (John 13:34-35; 1Cor 7:15; Eph 4:3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ BUT it is not peace or unity at all costs. We do not compromise with evil intent. A higher priority exists to protect the Lord’s sheep from harm..... Rom 12:18

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- As far as trying to contend with Pharisaical teachings in our own backyard, just remember, even Jesus could not turn things around. In fact, He got crucified for challenging the belief systems of His day.
- **NEXT WEEK: Mark 10.** Jesus teaches about divorce and remarriage (D&R) and a sundry of other topics before healing blind Bartimaeus.

