

“Misunderstood”
Mark 3:20-35
4/14/24
Message 9

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “Misunderstood”

- **A Few Questions?**

- **Have you ever been**
 - Misunderstood?
 - Misrepresented?
- **Has anyone ever taken**
 - Your words and twisted them around and used them against you?
 - Your motives and twisted them around and used them against you?
- **Of Course –**
 - We ALL Have faced this kind of Personal Attack
 - It Painful when that happens

- **That Is The Reality Of Jesus Ministry!**

- **His Ministry**
 - Was surrounded by Constant Controversy
 - He was
 - Misunderstood

- Hated
- Misrepresenting both His Words and His Works!
- **So.... It will be with US**
 - As follower of the Lord Jesus – We Will also come under attack!
 - SO DON'T BE SURPRISED!

John 15:18 (NKJV)

18 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you.

1 John 3:13 (NKJV)

13 Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you.

• **Review – The Authority Of Jesus**

- **Authority Over The Sabbath vs. 2:23-28**
 - The Pharisees Breaking Sabbath Laws
 - Because His disciples ate some grain
 - He pointed out their hypocrisy
 - Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath
- **Authority In The Synagogue vs. 3:1-6**
 - Healed the man with the withered Hand
 - At His Word –
 - The Power is There Just take the step of Faith and Stretch out your hand
- **Authority Over Unclean Spirits vs. 3:7-12**
 - Healed and Cast out Unclean spirits

- **Authority In Choosing The 12 vs. 3:13-19**

- **1st We Don't know a Lot about these guys**

- So we would not worship them
- THERE IS NO ROOM FOR CELEBRITY PASTORS in the CHURCH

- **2nd Ordinary Men**

- God uses Ordinary people

- **3rd We are ALL called to be His Disciples**

- **4th Mission of The church –**

- Make Disciples

- **5th That is the focus of this Calvary CP**

- **Now This Morning We Will Look At 3 Ways Jesus was Misunderstood**

- Confusion By His Family vs. 20-21
- Corrupt / False Accusations vs. 22-30
- Clarification On Who Jesus' Family Is vs. 30-35

Confusion By His Family vs. 20-21

- **First: The Reason For The Large Crowd v. 20**

- **1st Then The Multitudes v. 20a**

Mark 3:20 (NKJV)

20 Then the multitude came together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread.

- **The Multitudes Came together AGAIN**

- Why because of all the Miracles, healing, casting out demons

▪ **Note**

- Still popular
- But the time will come when many will leave Him (John 6:66)

○ **2nd So that they could not so much as eat bread v. 20b**

Mark 3:20 (NKJV)

20 Then the multitude came together again, **so that they could not so much as eat bread.**

▪ **The huge crowds so pressed upon Jesus and the disciples**

- So much so that they did not have the time or the space to eat.

▪ **Application**

- Ministry is Very Busy
- There were times when Jesus found strength in other things than in food!

John 4:30–34 (NKJV)

30 Then they went out of the city and came to Him.

31 In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.”

32 But He said to them, “*I have food to eat of which you do not know.*”

33 Therefore the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?”

34 Jesus said to them, “*My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.*”

- There is a lot to say about this type of commitment!

- **Second: His Own Relatives Misunderstood Him v. 21**

- **1st His Own People – Relatives v. 21a**

Mark 3:21 (NKJV)

21 But when His own people heard about this, they went out to lay hold of Him, for they said, “He is out of His mind.”

- **1st His Own People**

- “Friends” (KJV) – literally, “Those from the side of Him”
- Means: It’s referring to Jesus’ family members
 - (Which we’ll see in verse 31)
- Remember
 - The brothers of Jesus didn’t believe in Him until after His resurrection

John 7:3–5 (NKJV)

3 His brothers therefore said to Him, “Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing.

4 For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.”

5 For even His brothers did not believe in Him.

- **2nd Heard of IT**

- Heard of What?
 - Jesus’ family has now heard of what He’s been doing –
 - Healing diseases
 - Casting out demons
 - Preaching and Teaching

- His activity prevented Him from Eating!
- **2nd He is out of His mind v. 21b**

Mark 3:21 (NKJV)

21 But when His own people heard about this, **they went out to lay hold of Him, for they said, “He is out of His mind.”**

- **1st To lay hold on –**
 - Greek: Krateo –
 - Means: To have power, seize; Arrest
 - They’ve come the twenty miles from Nazareth to take Jesus home.
- **2nd He is beside himself –**
 - Greek: Existemi – to throw out of position; to be out of one’s mind, insane
- **3rd Some Possible Reasons They thought He was INSANE**
 - 1st He claims to be God – Mark 2:5

Mark 2:5 (NKJV)

5 When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ***“Son, your sins are forgiven you.”***

- ONLY God can Forgive sins
- 2nd He left a good JOB
 - He was a Carpenter
 - No Doubt Being GOD
 - He would have been very successful!
 - He left a prosperous business

- To do WHAT?! Preach?! Heal?!
 - They are confused
- 3rd They Were Afraid FOR Him
 - The religious and political leaders plotted to murder Him (Mark 3:6)
- 4th All the attention had affected His Ability to Reason
 - Huge crowds began to follow Jesus
 - They knew how such fame and attention and celebrity could go to someone's head (Mark 3:7-8)
- 5th We Grow Up with Him – We never saw this Healing power
 - He had never really shown earlier in His life (Mark 3:9-11)
- 6th The Disciples He Choose
 - He picked such an unlikely group of disciples that His judgment could be questioned (Mark 3:13-19)
- 7th Now we hear you aren't even taking care of yourself Physically
 - The pressures of this incredible ministry made Him miss regular mealtimes (they could not so much as eat bread).

• **Third: Application**

- **Have you Ever Been Misunderstood or Considered a FANATIC for following Jesus?**
 - NO Worries

- You are in GREAT Company
- **The Company We're In**
 - Jesus
 - Hananiah Michelle Azariah (Daniel 3)
 - Daniel (Daniel 6)
 - All The Disciples / Apostles
 - Paul

Acts 26:24 (NKJV)

24 Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad!"

- Many Saints of old
 - They called D.L. Moody - "Crazy Moody",
 - Spurgeon - The Down-Grade Controversy
 - Many Relationships hurt
 - Many believed this shortened his life
 - Whitefield
 - George Whitefield refused to soft-pedal his preaching
 - His bluntness sometimes offended people
 - Many established ministers of his time refused to allow him to speak in their pulpits.
 - While angry listeners occasionally pelted him with everything from rotten fruit to dead cats!

- John Bunyan
 - Was married with children to support, and he could have walked out of the jail a free man at any time if he simply promised to stop preaching publicly without a license!

- **Jesus Warned US**

- Turn to the FORGOTTEN Passage - Matthew 10:16-33
- **1st Expect Difficulty vs. 16-25**

Matthew 10:16–17 (NKJV)

16 *“Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.*

17 *But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues.*

- Lesson - Expect Difficulty
 - Serving God is NOT about
 - Everything going easy
 - Living in luxury
 - Being popular
 - Serving God WILL
 - Require sacrifice
 - You will opposition.
 - You will be misunderstood and falsely accused
 - In some case's arrested and killed

- MOCKED will they kill you
- It is a l disservice
 - To give the impression that becoming a Christian is all about “having your needs met”.
 - We make Jesus out to be the ultimate psychologist, the ultimate doctor, the ultimate welfare director.
 - VERY SAD
 - *One Pastor said; “Jesus came to save us and help us. But following Him is more like signing up with the Marines and being sent to Iraq than it is winning the lottery and taking a cruise to Mexico.”*
- **2nd Expect trouble as a Christian - It’s what’s up ahead of us.**

2 Timothy 3:12 (NKJV)

12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

Matthew 10:18–25 (NKJV)

18 You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

19 But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;

20 for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

21 “Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.

22 And you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.

23 When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

24 “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

25 It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household!

▪ **3rd Fear God vs. 26-31**

Matthew 10:26–31 (NKJV)

- 26** *Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.*
- 27** *“Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops.*
- 28** *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*
- 29** *Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will.*
- 30** *But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*
- 31** *Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.*

- Jesus calls His followers to follow Him openly.

Corrupt / False Accusations vs. 22-30

• **First: The Accusations v. 22**

- **1st The scribes who came down from Jerusalem v. 22a**

Mark 3:22 (NKJV)

22 *And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebub,” and, “By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons.”*

▪ **Scribes:**

- *Jewish scholars, also called lawyers, (mostly Pharisees) who were experts on the law and its application - MacArthur, J*

▪ **This was an official delegation of experts from Jerusalem**

- Coming to Galilee to observe and evaluate the ministry of Jesus.
- The opinion of these scribes carried a lot of weight with many people.

- **2nd He has Beelzebub v. 22b**

Mark 3:22 (NKJV)

22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebub,” and, “By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons.”

▪ **1st Beelzebub –**

- The Greek: Beelzeboul
- Meaning:
 - “Lord of the House”
 - In The OT Beelzebub meant
 - Lord of flies or fly–god
 - It’s referring to Satan - The prince of the demons.
 - *Expositor’s; “Actually, they accused Jesus of being possessed by Satan. “He hath Beelzebub, implying that Beelzebub hath Him, using Him as his agent. The expression points to something more than an alliance [but] to possession, and than on a grand scale. They wouldn’t say that Jesus was possessed by just any demon, but by Satan himself”.*
- The scribes are desperate to accuse Him –
 - To Explain away what He is doing

▪ **2nd How Many times have we seen this!**

John 10:20 (NKJV)

20 And many of them said, “He has a demon and is mad. Why do you listen to Him?”

John 8:48 (NKJV)

48 Then the Jews answered and said to Him, “Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?”

John 8:41 (NKJV)

41 *You do the deeds of your father.”* Then they said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God.”

Luke 7:34 (NKJV)

34 *The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’*

John 7:20 (NKJV)

20 The people answered and said, “You have a demon. Who is seeking to kill You?”

• **Second: Jesus’ Answer vs. 23-27**

○ **1st How can Satan cast out Satan? v. 23-26**

Mark 3:23–26 (NKJV)

23 So He called them to Himself and said to them in parables: “*How can Satan cast out Satan?*

24 *If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.*

25 *And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand.*

26 *And if Satan has risen up against himself, and is divided, he cannot stand, but has an end.*

▪ **Jesus showed that if He were an agent of Satan**

- And was working against Satan
- Then surely Satan’s kingdom was in a civil war and would not stand.
- Jesus is saying that Satan isn’t stupid enough to be dividing his own kingdom.

○ **2nd No one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods v. 27**

Mark 3:27 (NKJV)

27 *No one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. And then he will plunder his house.*

- He said, "I'm not under Satan.
 - Instead, I am proving that I am stronger than he is."
- Unless he first binds the strong man:
 - In this parable Satan is the strong man
 - Who guards what belongs to him.
 - Jesus' ministry was defeating this strong man,
 - Both in the case of casting the demon out of the man who was mute and in the broader sense.
- Then he will plunder his house:
 - Jesus looked at every life delivered from Satan's domination and said,
 - "I'm plundering the kingdom of Satan one life at a time."
 - Jesus is saying that He is simply stronger than Satan and the demons and is able to bind them.
- Application
 - Satan has no domination on us
 - The one who binds the strong man and will plunder his house is our risen Lord.
 - BUT he will attack and we must be ready

1 Peter 5:8 (NKJV)

8 *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*

- **Third: Jesus' Admonition (Warning) vs. 28-30**

- **1st He who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness v. 28**

Mark 3:28 (NKJV)

28 *"Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter;*

- **Those who would speak against Christ**

- His humanity, Deity
 - Those who rejected Him & even crucified Him –
- That could be forgiven
 - That is why Jesus prayed Father forgive them for they do not know what they do!
 - A simple point...
 - One who dishonors the Son...
 - No matter what he has said or done...
 - He Can be FORGIVEN

- **2nd He who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness vs. 29-30**

Mark 3:29–30 (NKJV)

29 *but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation"—*

30 *because they said, "He has an unclean spirit."*

- **Many people wonder what the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit IS**
 - Before we answer this question

- Let's talk about what it is NOT
 - It's Not Murder?
 - Ask Moses, David, Paul
 - It's Not Sexual immorality?
 - Ask Judah with Tamar, David
 - It's Not Drunkenness?
 - Ask Noah, & Lot
 - It's Not Denying Christ?
 - Ask Peter
- **Understand The Holy Spirit's work is to point people to Christ**

John 16:8 (NKJV)

8 *And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.*

John 15:26 (NKJV)

26 *"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.*

- **So, when someone persistently rejects the work the Holy Spirit**
 - Then they have blasphemed the Holy Spirit
 - The BLASPHEMY of the Holy Spirit is the CONTINUAL REJECTION of that work of the Holy Spirit leading me to Jesus
 - If I do not repent & ask Jesus to forgive me of my sins THEN I am left with NO means of dealing with my sins

- So IF you are REJECTING Jesus today, then you are in the PROCESS of committing the unpardonable sin
- IF you die without accepting Jesus, then you have blasphemed the PERSON & WORK of the Holy Spirit and are left with no way of salvation

Clarification On Who Jesus' Family Is vs. 30-35

• First: Jesus' Family Had Good Intentions vs. 31-32

- **1st His brothers and His mother vs. 31-32**

Mark 3:31–32 (NKJV)

31 Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him.

32 And a multitude was sitting around Him; and they said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are outside seeking You."

- Again – Jesus' Family was confused about who He is!
 - They came to carry out the plan described in Mark 3:21
 - To lay hold of Him, thinking that Jesus was out of His mind.

• Second: Jesus Instructs Us On WHAT Real Family Is vs. 33-35

- **1st Who is My mother, or My brothers? Vs. 33-34**

Mark 3:33–34 (NKJV)

33 But He answered them, saying, "*Who is My mother, or My brothers?*"

34 And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, "*Here are My mother and My brothers!*"

- NO Special Treatment
 - We might have expected that Jesus' family would have special privileges before Him.

- It almost surprises us that they do not.
- Application
 - 1st Yes - FAMILY is very important
 - We have many scriptures to support how important family is

Ephesians 6:1–4 (NKJV)

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2 “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise:

3 “that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”

4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

- 2nd Things we Learn about MARY
 - Worship of her is never called for in scripture
 - She had more children – not a virgin
- **2nd Whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother v. 35**

Mark 3:35 (NKJV)

35 For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother.”

- **1st Who are Jesus’ Family?**
 - Those that do the WILL of GOD
 - Those who receive Jesus as Lord and Savior –
 - Are NOW Forever FAMILY
 - We Belong to the BEST MOST DIVERSE Family
- **2nd Jesus put God’s interests above natural family ties**

- MacArthur; “Jesus made a decisive and comprehensive statement on true Christian discipleship. Such discipleship involves a spiritual relationship that transcends the physical family and is open to all who are empowered by the Spirit of God to come to Christ in repentance and faith and enabled to live a life of obedience to God’s Word.”

- Application – What is the Will of God

- Love Him Above All

Matthew 22:37 (NKJV)

37 Jesus said to him, “*You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.*”

- Live for Him – Bought at a Price

1 Corinthians 6:20 (NKJV)

20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

- Holiness – Purity 1 Peter 1 Thess

1 Peter 1:16 (NKJV)

16 because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”

1 Thessalonians 4:3–8 (NKJV)

3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;
 4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,
 5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God;
 6 that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified.
 7 For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.
 8 Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

- There may be division in your family

Matthew 10:34–39 (NKJV)

- 34** *“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.*
- 35** *For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’;*
- 36** *and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.’*
- 37** *He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.*
- 38** *And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.*
- 39** *He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.*

- Jesus MUST Come First

Closing

- So Ever been Misunderstood?
- Keep your eyes on Jesus