

MARK 2:1-22

REVIEW...

- **Mark** – the Gospel to the Gentiles – showing Jesus as the servant of all (**Mark 10:45**)
- **MARK 1:1-13 – THE BEGINNING OF JESUS' MINISTRY**
 - The Gospel – Good News of salvation – is all about Jesus Christ!
 - John the Baptist came preparing the way for Jesus... Jesus came to John to be baptized...
- **MARK 1:14-45 – JESUS' MINISTRY IN GALILEE**
 - The message of Jesus' ministry...
 - Jesus' message - The time is fulfilled – repent and believe in the Gospel
 - He called the disciples – Peter, Andrew, James, & John – immediately they followed
 - In the synagogue of Capernaum – Jesus taught with authority
 - The power of Jesus ministry...
 - Jesus showed He had power of the spiritual – cast out the demon
 - Jesus showed He had power of the physical – healed Peter's mother in law
 - Jesus showed He had the power over sin – healed the leper

INTRODUCTION...

- **THE SCRIBES & THE PHARISEES...**
 - The titles for the Religious leaders of Israel (*the pastors and priests of Jesus' day*)
 - The Scribes – the copyist – well educated men (*PHD*) who made copies of God's Word
 - The Pharisees – zealous religious sect who promoted their interpretation of the Law
 - They were set in their 'old' ways – and were not at all happy with Jesus 'new' teaching
 - So they challenge Jesus in 3 times – and Jesus shows them a 'new' way!

1ST - YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN... (3 THINGS) vs. 1-12

- **THE PARALYTIC...**
 - Jesus returned from his 1st tour of the cities of Galilee - to Capernaum
 - He entered Peter's house – and word quickly went out Jesus has returned...
 - Immediately MANY gathered at the house – so you could not even get in...
 - Then Jesus shared (*imperfect*) the Word with them... (*Home Bible study*)
 - 4 men brought a paralytic man to Jesus...
 - Paralytic – a person who for some reason was unable to walk or stand (*paralyzed*)
 - The men could not get to Jesus because of the crowds...
 - So they tore part of the roof off and lowered the paralytic down to Him
 - This wasn't 'nipa' – it would have been tile and concrete – 'chipped away the roof'
 - Nothing was going to keep these men from getting their friend to Jesus!
 - When Jesus saw their faith He said...
 - Your sins are forgiven (*Perfect/Passive/Indicative*)
 - Literally all the sins you have ever or will ever commit are taken away!
 - Not because of the faith of the paralytic – but the men who brought him

- We have family and friends who do not believe in Jesus
- They may not be able to get to Jesus themselves – sin may have paralyzed them
- Are we like these men – willing to do ANYTHING to bring them to Jesus
- Are we willing to pick them up – if necessary – to bring them to a Bible Study
- Bring them to a place where they can meet with Jesus – are be healed!
- I do wonder if the men were disappointed as first...
 - They brought their friend to Jesus to be healed – not for forgiveness...
 - Jesus dealt with the greatest need first – salvation!
 - Even if someone were raised from the dead – they'd still die one day
 - Physical healing is only for a moment – salvation is eternal!
- THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS...
 - o At once some of the scribes said, "This man blasphemies!"
 - According to the Old Testament Law there was no way to take away sin
 - **Hebrews 10:4** – "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins."
 - The Law (*1st 5 book of the Bible*) allowed for sacrifices to cover sin – not take it away
 - They saw Jesus words as blasphemy because only God can forgive...
 - The irony in their accusation is that they were right... Jesus is God!
 - Jesus here was showing them a greater way than the Law – 'Old' Covenant
 - Where the Law could only cover sin – He can take it away completely – **Psalm 103:12**
 - He was showing a 'New' way – salvation and forgiveness through Jesus!
 - o Jesus knew their thoughts...
 - The Scribes and Pharisees had not said anything – they just thought it...
 - Yet Jesus knew their thoughts – and challenged them - which is easier to say...
 - Your sins are forgiven / arise and walk...
 - Obviously it is much harder to say arise and walk...
 - Anyone can say your sins are forgiven – how can you prove it though...
 - If you say arise and walk – you can tell real quick if you are a fake
 - But so that you know the Son of Man has the power to forgive sins... take up your bed!
 - In Jesus day (*today as well*) sickness was related to sin...
 - **John 9:1-2** – "As Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. His disciples asked Him, saying, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'"
 - To prove that He had forgiven the paralytic of his sins...
 - Jesus heals him of his sickness ~ power over sickness = power over sin!
 - Jesus proved He had forgiven the mans sins ~ by healing him
- THE CROWDS REACTION...
 - o **Luke 5:26** – "We have seen strange things today!"
 - *Paradoxos* – literally a paradox – a contradiction... Jesus, a man, was God!
 - Only God can forgive our sins – because all sin is against God! - **Psalm 51:4**
 - Jesus proved He was God - by healing the paralytic – proving He's forgiven his sins!
 - o The crowds glorified God – we have never seen anything like this...

- Whenever Jesus did a work – the people gave glory to God...
- If you ever want to know if something is a work of God – whom does it glorify
- If the work (*ministry*) someone does points others to Jesus it's a work of God

2ND - TAX COLLECTORS AND SINNERS... (2 THINGS) vs. 13-17

● SAVING SINNERS...

- o Jesus went out to walk by the sea – the crowds came to Him (*Imperfect*) – He taught them
- o There Jesus saw Levi – son of Alphaeus (*Matthew* - meaning “Gift of God”)
- o A tax collector...
 - Literally a customs agent - perhaps not far from today – a very corrupt position...
 - His profession was hated and despised by the Jews (*Traitor for Rome*)
- o Simple call & command of Jesus – “Follow me” (Present/Active/Imperative)
 - The call to follow Jesus is not just for the upright and perfect
 - God calls sinners to be His disciples – He uses the foolish... - **I Corinthians 1:27**

● EATING WITH SINNERS...

- o Apparently Matthew invited over a bunch of his tax collector & sinner friends
- o It ‘happened’ that they all came over and sat down with Jesus – also following Him!
 - Matthew had set an example – and all his sinner friends were now following suit
 - When we make a stand for Jesus – thought it can be hard – we set an example for others
 - As we follow Jesus – bring Jesus to them – they will also start to follow the Lord!
- o Again the Scribes and Pharisees complained (*Imperfect/Active/Indicative*)
 - In the days of Jesus everyone would eat from a common serving bowl
 - No rules about “double dipping” so you really “shared” the meal
 - For that reason the Pharisees were very careful whom they ate with
 - The Law called them to be Holy – separate from sinners...
- o Jesus answer – do the healthy go to the Doctor? Do you go to the Hospital when well?
 - In other words – where else would you expect to find a doctor – but with His patients
 - Jesus point is that if you are righteous you don't need saving (*forgiveness*)
 - It's the sinners who need to be saved – it's the sinners who need help...
 - So of course Jesus sat with the sinners – that is who He came to save!
 - I know a lot of people who say the churches are full of sinners – why go?
 - That's like saying the hospital is full of sick people – why go?
 - The church is a hospital for sinners – it is where you go to get well spiritually!
 - The irony is... **Romans 3:23** – “We have all sinned...” We are all sinners!
 - The Scribes and Pharisees thought they were healthy “good” because of their rules...
 - But they needed saving as much as the Tax collectors and Sinners...
 - Sad when people in church think their better than the world – do not let sinners in
 - When we forget we are sinners – and the church is where we go to be healed
 - It does not matter who you are – drunk / thief / proud / immoral
 - There is always room in church or one more sinner... the doors are always open

3RD ~ GOOD BECAUSE OF WORKS... vs. 18-20

- **THE DISCIPLES OF JOHN ASK A QUESTION...**

- “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often - But you and your disciples do not fast?”
- This was not so much a question from John’s disciples – as from the Pharisees...
- The Pharisees thought that they were righteous by their actions
 - They were righteous because they fasted (*and they let you know it*)
 - They followed the ‘Old’ Covenant – your actions (*good works*) made you right with God
- Jesus response: Friends of the Bridegroom...
 - Jesus is the Bridegroom – we are called the bride of Christ (**Revelation 21:9**)
 - His point is the friends of the bridegroom don’t fast before a wedding
 - Can you imagine attending a wedding... and you are asked not to eat???
 - He said there would come a day when the Bridegroom would be taken away
 - The ascension - when He returned to the right hand of the Father
 - The work of establishing His church would begin - then His disciples would fast
 - But Jesus understood that righteousness did not come from our actions...
 - **Romans 3:20 / 3:28 / Galatians 2:21**
 - We are righteous – “Good” – only by faith in the finished work of Jesus
 - Where the Old Covenant (*the Law*) told us what we had to do
 - The New Covenant (*Grace*) tells us what God has done for us!

JESUS CONCLUSION – THE ‘NEW’...

- Jesus gives the parable - New patch on an old garment / New wine in old wineskins
 - New cloth shrinks when it gets wet
 - Put it on an tear in and old garment that is already shrunk
 - And when the new shrinks it will tear and ruin both
 - New wine gives off fermenting gas causing the wine skin to expand
 - Old wineskins are hardened and cannot stretch
 - Put New wine in and they will rupture ruining both wine and bottle
- The Old Covenant Vs. The New Covenant...
 - Jesus uses the challenges of the Pharisees to reveal the greatest truth
 - That we are not longer under the Law – the Old Covenant – the to do list...
 - We are now under Grace! – The New Covenant – what God has done for us list!
 - Under the New Covenant there is forgiveness of sin – the paralytic...
 - God sits with sinners, and calls them to follow Him and be His disciples...
 - We are not “good” because of what we have done – fasting...
 - But because of what God has done for us!
 - Not us – but Jesus! - **II Corinthians 3:5-6**
 - Are we looking to be “good” because of what we do?
 - We read our Bible / Pray 4x a day / Tithe / Fast / help those in need...
 - All of those thing are good to do – but they do not make us righteous
 - We are not under the Law (*the to do list*) - the Law only shows we are unrighteous
 - We live under the New Covenant – Grace! – Because of what God has done!
 - We are “good” because God took away our sin at the cross
 - And now he calls us to Follow Him (*sinners that we are*)