

# Jesus: The Master Servant

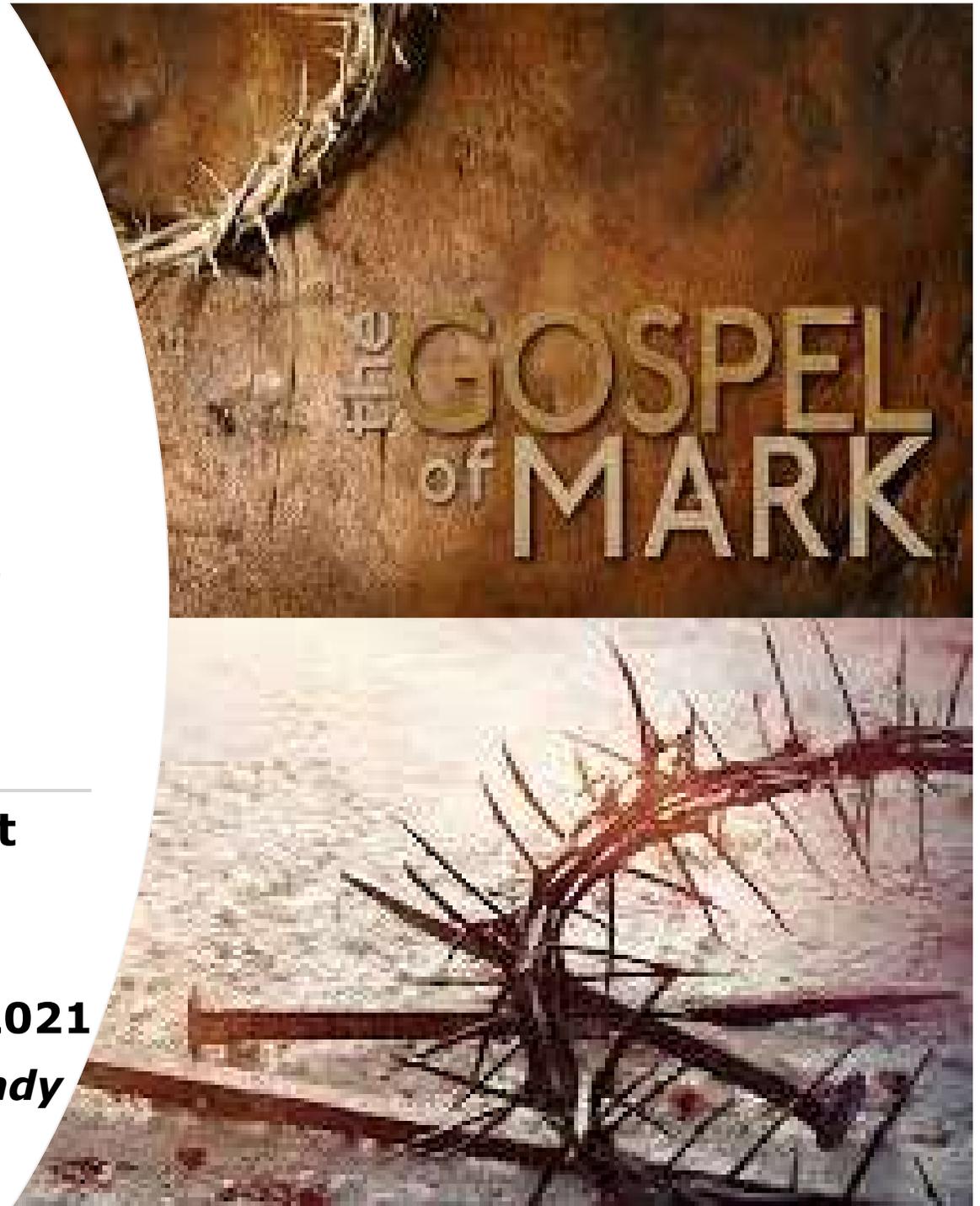
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**Mount Calvary Baptist  
Church**

**Bible Study Series**

**Lesson 2 – February 10, 2021**

***Instructor: Dea. Larry Lundy***





# 2021 Bible Study Series

## Theme

**“Jesus – The Master Servant”**

## Bible Book

**The Gospel of Mark**

## Key Verse

**“For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”**

**(Mark 10:45, NLT)**



# 2021 Bible Study Series

## Study Aim(s)

To discover how the Gospel of Mark shares with us the true character of Jesus Christ as “**Master Servant**” through His life, His love, and His ministry. We will see how Jesus provides the ultimate model for those longing to actively serve others while serving God.



# Jesus: The Master Servant

## Let's Recap

- We began our series by looking at Mark, the person, and who he was.
- Also known as “John Mark”, he was a cousin of Barnabas and a close companion of the apostle Peter and a recurring character in the book of Acts.
- Mark was part of the Jerusalem church community, who accompanied Paul and Barnabas on Paul’s first missionary journey (*Acts 12:25-13:5*)



# Jesus: The Master Servant

## Let's Recap

- Mark traveled with Peter for 15-20 years listening to Peter's sermons and recording them.
- Peter helped Mark to overcome the instability of his youth and develop the strength and maturity needed for the work to which God had called him.
- It is generally believed that Mark adapted Peter's preaching and teachings about Jesus into the book we now call the Gospel of Mark.
- Mark's lasting impact on the Christian Church comes from his writing rather than his life.



# Jesus: The Master Servant

## Let's Recap

- We also took a brief look into the Gospel book of Mark, its origin, its scope, and its theme.
- We learned that the Gospel of Mark presents Jesus as the Suffering Servant of the Lord.
- Mark's focus is on the action of Jesus more so than His teachings, highlighting His service and sacrifice.
- In Mark's Gospel, Jesus lays aside the regal robes of kingship and girds Himself with the towel of service – ***This model is the basis of our study.***



# Jesus: The Master Servant

## Let's Recap

- We started to look at a character trait that Jesus modeled over and over again for believers and this trait is Servanthood
- We started to explore how Jesus exemplified this character trait and how he lived out this trait with perfection with everything he did.
- In Chapter 1, we began to look how Mark shared three (3) important facts about God's Servant, with the initial fact being **His Identity**.



# Jesus: The Master Servant

- Mark approached the Identity of the Servant by recording the testimonies of several dependable witnesses to give us assurance that Jesus is all that He claims to be:
  - *1<sup>st</sup> Witness: Mark himself*
  - *2<sup>nd</sup> Witness: The Prophets*
  - *3<sup>rd</sup> Witness: John the Baptist*
  - *4<sup>th</sup> Witness: The Father and the Holy Spirit*
- Through Mark's identity, we learned that this Servant is so special that even heaven itself took note of Him.



# Jesus: The Master Servant

## Tonight's Focus

- We will continue to look at Chapter 1 and see how Mark provides us a view of the 2<sup>nd</sup> important fact about God's Servant – **His Authority**.
- Even though Christ is a Servant, Mark will begin to show us examples of what Jesus stated in *Matthew 28:18*: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me”



# Jesus: The Master Servant



***“The Authority of the Servant”***  
**(Mark 1:12-28)**



# The Authority of The Servant

## Lesson Aim(s)

- To explore how Mark provides a view of the authority of Jesus through his words and then his actions (works).
- To see how Jesus, as the Master Servant, begins to exercise His authority for the benefit of those that believe in Him.
- To help us understand how Jesus used the authority given to Him by the Father to carry out His mission.



# The Authority of the Servant

## Introduction

- What does the word “*authority*” mean?



# The Authority of the Servant

## Introduction

- **Definition of authority:**

***au-thor-i-ty*** (*noun*)

1. the power or right to give orders, make decision, and enforce obedience.

*“the had absolute authority over his subordinates”*

2. a person or organization having power or control in a particular, typically political or administrative, sphere.

*“the health authorities”*



# The Authority of the Servant

## Introduction

- We all live with authority – whether supervisors, teachers, professors, parents, government officials, etc.
- How we respond to authority impacts how successful we will be.
- Different emotional responses can be triggered (insecurity, used, trapped, or secure, free, and useful) depending on how this authority is exercised).



# **The Authority of the Servant**

## **Introduction**

- **Questions for Discussion:**
  1. Thinking about those who have authority over your life (parents, employer, teachers, government, etc.), is your response to their authority usually positive or negative? Explain why?
  2. How do you respond to God's authority in your life (fearful disregard, grudging submission, or joyful obedience)?
  3. Any thought on how a better understanding of Jesus' authority can lead you to greater joy?



# The Authority of the Servant

## Introduction

- We normally expect a servant to be under authority and to take orders.
- But God's Master Servant (Jesus Christ) exercises authority and gives orders.
- We must remember that Jesus is a most unique and unusual servant.
- Jesus is a servant who "*has been given all authority in heaven and on earth*" (Matthew 28:18)



# The Authority of the Servant

## Introduction

- To tell us about the authority of the servant, Mark 1:12-28 describes three scenes that reveal our Lord's authority as the Servant of God:
  - *His Temptation (Mark 1:12-13)*
  - *His Preaching (Mark 1:14-22)*
  - *His Command (Mark 1:23-28)*
- Let's take an in depth look at what our text reveals.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation (*Mark 1:12-13*)

- Immediately after His baptism, Mark tells us in Mark 1:12 that Jesus was driven into the wilderness.
- We have to take note of Mark's recorded words when he said "*and immediately*".
- Jesus did not spend time "patting Himself on the back" because a heavenly voice made declaration and a dove served witness that He was God's beloved son.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation (*Mark 1:12-13*)

- The Servant had a task to perform, and He immediately went to do it without delay.
- Mark does not give full details about the Temptation of Jesus as the other Gospels do (*Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13*), but Mark adds an important detail the others don't have.
- Mark tells us that Jesus was driven into the wilderness by "*the Spirit*".



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

- **Question for thought: Why do you think Mark tells us that the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness?**



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

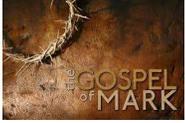
- This is the same Spirit that just descended on Jesus at His baptism.
- The Spirit immediately forces the temptation.
- It indicates that it was the plan of God for Jesus to begin His ministry with this challenge and that it was not the devil's doing.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

- Sometime we give the enemy too much credit (the devil made me do it), but he had nothing to do with Jesus being led into the wilderness.
- The devil was for sure willing to tempt Jesus, but it was the Spirit of God leading Jesus to it.
- The devil could tempt Jesus with every power he had, but he would not succeed.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

- The temptation episode was God's way of showing that Jesus was the perfect man, that He could resist sin, that he could defeat Satan.
- Which statement below do you support and why?
  - (1) Jesus was not able to sin*
  - (2) Jesus was able not to sin*



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

- We must understand that Jesus was NOT tempted to sin – as in wanting to sin, but was able to hold back the urge.
- James 1:13 tells us, “God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone”
- Christ does not have a sin nature as we do.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation (*Mark 1:12-13*)

- The temptations being offered to Christ and His refusal to partake carries important biblical significance.
- It reminds us that the Servant remained sinless and therefore remained the perfect sacrifice, able to take on the sin of mankind on the cross.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

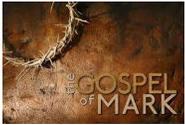
- In verse 13, Mark informs about Jesus in the wilderness for 40 days, being tempted with the wild beasts.
- This is a contrast to Adam, who was tested in a beautiful Garden and failed.
- But Jesus was tempted in a dangerous wilderness and won the victory.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation (*Mark 1:12-13*)

- Adam lost his dominion over creation because of his sin (*Genesis 1:28*), but in Christ, that dominion has been restored for all who trust Him (*Hebrews 2:6-8*)
- Jesus was with the wild beasts, but they did not harm him. This was a demonstration of that future time of peace and righteousness, when the Lord shall return and establish His kingdom (*Isaiah 11:9, 35:9*).
- Through His temptation, Mark shows Jesus is a Servant with authority.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

- With his victory over the temptations of the enemy, Jesus reminds us of several things:
  - **For the temptation of food:**
    - If God puts you in a place of deprivation for some spiritual purpose, you do not try to change it solely for the purpose of satisfying your physical needs.
    - We must discover what God is doing through the deprivation, what spiritual growth is desired, and how it should be achieved.
    - Jesus escaped the temptation of food by showing that He was not just physical, but spiritual. He could accept the hunger and the weakness if it meant obeying God. He had the authority to conquer physical hunger.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

- With his victory over the temptations of the enemy, Jesus reminds us of several things:
  - **For the temptation of throwing himself off the temple:**
    - Jesus showed that he trusted God. He essentially was saying, my trust is perfect. I do not need to do anything heroic to prove it or put my trust in God to a test. He had the authority to trust God.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Temptation *(Mark 1:12-13)*

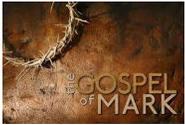
- With his victory over the temptations of the enemy, Jesus reminds us of several things:
  - **For the temptation to fall down and worship Satan:**
    - Jesus showed that he would not bow down and worship Satan for worthless kingdoms. Jesus was focused on completing his assignment as a Servant as he knew that he would receive the kingdom in God's time, a far better kingdom than Satan could offer. He had the authority to complete his commission.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Preaching (*Mark 1:14-22*)

- In verses 14-22, Mark now shows us the authority of Jesus through His words.
- If ever a person spoke God's truth with authority, it was Jesus Christ (*Matthew 7:28-29*)
- Because Jesus preached with authority, He was able to call men from their regular occupations and make them His disciples.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Preaching (*Mark 1:14-22*)

- Jesus saw some characteristics of successful fisherman (*patience, energy, stamina, faith*) and knew he needed disciples with these qualities to be successful in the ministry of winning lost souls.
- The scribes of that day spoke from **authorities**, but Jesus spoke with **authority**.
- What's the difference?



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Preaching (*Mark 1:14-22*)

- Speaking from authorities is a question of sources...where did you get your information from.
- It is a matter of repeating or quoting what you have read or heard based on others.
- In their speaking, the scribes and rabbis would cite other rabbis and speculate on what they thought the Scripture meant.
- But Jesus spoke plainly and clearly, saying *“This is what God means by this Scripture and this is how you should obey it”*.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Preaching (*Mark 1:14-22*)

- He spoke as one sent from God who knew what God declares.
- He was not offering “*helpful hints*”, but he proclaimed the sovereign authority of God and called people to obey his authoritative Word.
- Speaking with authority is from the spiritual realm. Being able to support what you are saying with spiritual truths and insights.
- Speaking with authority focuses on the kingdom of God and the gospel of Jesus Christ.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Preaching (*Mark 1:14-22*)

- Since Jesus emphasized the preaching of the Word, so must we.
- Since Jesus emphasized the authority of God's Word and the need for obedience, so must we.
- Since Jesus devoted Himself to His mission to preach the kingdom of God, so must those whom He has called to preach.
- As Jesus ministered in the synagogues and when he taught the Word, the people were astonished by His authority.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Command *(Mark 1:23-28)*

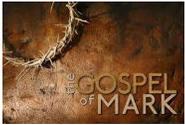
- In verse 23-28, Mark now moves to show the reader that Jesus has authority over evil spirits
- There was a man in the synagogue that had a spirit of an unclean demon.
- It may have been moral impurity, but whatever it was it controlled the man.
- We don't know how long the man had been in the synagogue listening to "boring teaching and preaching", but whatever the timeframe, he was unmoved.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Command *(Mark 1:23-28)*

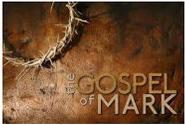
- But when Jesus preached, the demon recognized Jesus' power and purity, and he cried out through the man's voice: *"Leave us alone, what do we have to do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—The Holy One of God"* *(Mark 1:24)*
- Jesus silenced the demon. Not with any magic, but he simply commanded it come out of the man and it obeyed *(Mark 1:25)*



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Command (*Mark 1:23-28*)

- The demon tried one last attempt to injure, but it ultimately obeyed and came out of the man (*Mark 1:26*)
- Notice that Jesus also told the demon to be quiet (“hold thy peace”).
- Jesus did not need or desire the testimony of these evil witnesses, even though what they said were true.



# The Authority of the Servant

## ➤ His Command (*Mark 1:23-28*)

- The evil spirit believe in God, but they cringe because they are under His judgment and authority (*James 2:19*)
- The witnesses were amazed at His authority. They were amazed at His words before, and now they were amazed at His works.
- Jesus has the power and authority to judge the spirit world because He is the Holy one of God – The Messiah!



# The Authority of the Servant

## Conclusions/Takeaways

- 1) We need to believe that Jesus has all authority because of who he is.
- 2) We have to understand that faith is essential. All the people were amazed at what Jesus did, but not all believed.
- 3) From the emphasis in the passage on authority and the demon's reaction to Jesus, we see that Satan is active in attacking the authority of God.



# The Authority of the Servant

## Conclusions/Takeaways

- 4) Keep in mind that the devil comes to church...remember that Jesus was preaching in the synagogue when the demon manifests itself!!
- 5) If demons are subject to the authority of Christ, we should be also. Theirs is involuntary, but ours should be voluntary.
- 6) We must understand that someday, everyone of us will stand before the authoritative Christ that Mark points us to.



# **The Authority of the Servant**

**Questions, Answers  
and/or Comments**

**Thank You!**

**May God Continue To Shower You With His  
Abundant Blessings!**

**Meet us here next week for:**

**Session #3 –**

***“The Compassion and Mission of the Servant”***

**(Mark 1:29-45)**

