



## Chapter 1 – Part 2

[darrylmckinnon@yahoo.com](mailto:darrylmckinnon@yahoo.com)

## Mark 1: 15

# “repent and believe” A Call to Salvation

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- **Repentance** – for the unsaved person means a heartfelt, sorrowful recognition that you are a lost, helpless sinner who needs God’s forgiveness. (a change in mind resulting in a change in lifestyle)
- **Believe = Trust = Faith (total confidence in and dependence on Jesus)**
  - that Jesus Christ is God and your saviour, and with faith, accept Him into your **heart** as your Lord with a desire to follow Him.
  - It’s more than intellectual, even **the demons “believed”** and trembled, **it must be from the heart and there must be a change in your life.**
- **Salvation** - When we do our part by Repenting & Believing, God does His part by providing us salvation, which is the **forgiveness of sins and eternal life.**
  - **No effort required – Just Trust (with a repentant heart)**
  - **But it does require Commitment** - like a marriage to a spouse where on the wedding day you trust your spouse to love and care for your needs for the rest of your life.
  - Repentance & Faith go together, because it’s impossible to put your faith in Christ as your Lord & Saviour, without first changing your mind about who He is and what he has done.

## Mark 1: 15

# REPENTANCE

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- **Rom 3:23; 6:23; Prov 28:13; Luke 13:3, 24:46-48; 2 Cor. 7:10; Mark 2:17**
- **Repentance** literally means **TO CHANGE ONE'S MIND** about your **ATTITUDE** towards **God, self, sin and Christ.**
- Repentance is the sinner's recognition & acknowledgement that they are lost, helpless and in need of grace, in light of God's holiness. Grace and Truth must never be separated.
- It must be produced by the Holy Spirit and often effected by preaching of the Word, like John the Baptist was doing.
- Therefore Jesus tells every sinner in Luke 13:3 "**Except you change your ATTITUDE, you will perish.**"
- See [www.Crossroadoftruth.org](http://www.Crossroadoftruth.org) – detailed study notes on Sin & Repentance at this link. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ce606228f647a00015de8b3/t/5ceb5fd6eef1a12eced1f15/1558929366663/SIN+%26+Repentance.pdf>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pn-MxtZLxI8> – Video on What Sin is

## Mark 1: 15

# Discussion Questions

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- Do you sometimes feel like your **heart** is filthy, disturbed, or something is wrong?
- Do you look for excuses to defend yourself, comparing yourself to others, rather than judging yourself and realizing you have sin in your heart that needs forgiveness from God (i.e. pride, selfishness, anger, lust, etc.)?
- How do you think people who don't know Christ would respond if you told them this Truth?
- Are you prepared to tell people you love this truth, even if they are offended or mock you? (or are you ashamed of the Gospel? – Mark 8:38)

# The Salvation of God

**DEATH**



**LIFE**

Sin/Child of Satan/  
Dead Spiritually/Adam  
Nature/Blind/Condemned/  
God's Wrath/Judged to Hell

- Disobedience to God's law
- Penalty of sin is death, therefore we need to be judged righteous to avoid the wrath of God

**God's Justice**



Salvation  
by Grace through Faith in the  
Shed Blood of Jesus  
Christ/Justified or Declared  
Righteous by God/Heaven

- Born Again/Adoption as Child of God/Forgiven of all Past & Future Sin/No Condemnation, Eternal Life/Holy Spirit Indwells

Grace & Salvation

**The Cross**

**God's Love**

(Mark 1:16-20)

# Jesus Calls Disciples to Follow Him

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- “Follow Me and **I will make....**” – used often for creation
- “**you fishers of men**” Fishing in the OT is a metaphor for coming judgement (**Jer. 16:14-16; Ezek. 29:4-5**), but Jesus reverses the imagery – netting people for salvation.
- Disciples “**left their nets...left their father**” – this is a major discipleship theme – radical commitment! Jesus must be first in our lives (not \$, etc.)
- Demonstrates Jesus’ authority over men
- Become fishers of men indicates that His followers will also call people to follow Jesus.
- Right from the start, Jesus asks us to be changed from self-centered takers, to active givers, or servants, who totally surrender everything, even work and family, to trust Him as we share the good news of the Gospel.
- **Q. If you just got engaged, or had some great news, wouldn’t you want to share it with others? Why not the Gospel?**

# “Follow Me”

The Calling → Discipleship ↔ Apostleship ↔

**Salvation**

- Repent
- Believe/Trust
- Forgiveness
- Born Again
- Holy Spirit Indwelling

**Daily  
Communication**

- Read the Word
- Pray
- Praise
- Worship
- Fellowship

**Lifestyle**

- Faith/Trust
- Surrender
- Love
- Obey
- Compassion
- Serving Others
- Resist Sin & Temptations
- Deny Yourself

**Telling  
Others**

- Proclaim the Gospel to Others
- Share Your Testimony
- Never be Ashamed of Jesus and His Words (Mark 8:38)

**What it Means to Follow Jesus & Be a Fisher of Men (Mark 1:17)**

# “Follow Me” – Is Jesus Your Lord

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- A disciple is one who obeys Jesus as the Lord and Master of your life, and renounces all he has
- Are you His servant, or are you just His child?
- A Disciple always puts God first – are you all out for Jesus? Do you ever put your family first, over Christ?
- Are you ever ashamed of Jesus when in public? **Mark 8: 34-38;**
- Have you renounced or relinquished all claim to what you have, recognizing it does not belong to you - **Matthew 19:29**

**Luke 14:26 <sup>26</sup> “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.**



# Why We Need to Know About the Demonic World

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1. Casting out demons was a major part of Jesus' ministry, not an ancillary one, and He called it a teaching of doctrine (Mark 1:27).
2. Jesus gave His disciples authority over demons when He sent them out to two-by-two to preach the kingdom of God (Mark 6:7) and he gave all His Followers the power to cast out demons (Mark 16:17).
3. The Apostles regularly cast out demons in the early church in the book of Acts.
4. Anytime we share the Gospel with an unbeliever we are confronting the Kingdom of Satan and the demonic realm. This is why Jesus gave followers the power to cast them out in the context of the Great Commission.
5. We need knowledge of this teaching in case we are forced to confront a demonic situation in our own lives or in our ministry in order to help others.
6. It is our responsibility to learn the full counsel of God and use it where applicable.
7. We do not want to focus or become obsessed with demons in our own lives, since faith, repentance & being filled with Holy Spirit will be protection enough in most cases.

“It is perfectly obvious to all of us in spiritual work that people can be possessed, harassed and controlled by evil forces, and more and more ministers will have to learn to the use the power of God to release people from the power of the devil.”

**Billy Graham**

# The 9 Exorcism Miracles Mentioned in 19 Places in the Gospels :

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1. Exorcism at the Synagogue in Capernaum (Mark 1:21–28; Luke 4:31–37)
2. Exorcism of the Gerasene Demoniac (Mark 5:1-17; Luke 8:26-37)
3. Exorcism of Syrophoenician Woman's Daughter (Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30)
4. Exorcism of the Demon Possessed Blind & Mute Man (Matt 12:22-32; Mark 3:20-30; Luke 11:14-23)
5. Exorcism of Demon Possessed Boy (Matt 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29; Luke 9:37-49)
6. Exorcisms at Sunset just after healing of Peter's wife's mother (Matt 8:16-17; Mark 1:32-34; Luke 4:40-41)
7. Exorcism of the Mute (Matt. 9:32-34)
8. Jesus had cast seven devils out of Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9; Luke 8:2)
9. Jesus continued to cast out devils even though Herod Antipas wanted to kill him. (Luke 13:31-32)

- **Note:** Jesus performed a total of 39 miracles. 25% of miracles recorded were casting out of demons.

(Mark 1:21-22)

# Teaching (“with Authority”)

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- The synagogue was the Jewish place of worship where public reading and explanation of Scripture took place by the rabbis and scribes.
- The scribes were considered the primary teachers of the law and were the highest “authorities” in religious matters, since most people only had limited access to the Scriptures, yet compared to Jesus they no authority at all. They merely discussed various interpretations of scripture.
- Jesus spoke with absolute conviction and clarity and speaking not from the interpretation of others, but from a position of authority and **declaring a new doctrine of the Kingdom of God**. They were “amazed”.
- Significant to note that this “amazement” of the crowds is a major theme of Mark. The source of the amazement here is in His teaching, and even the exorcism is seen as a “new teaching”.

# Exorcism – Spiritual Warfare

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- **The demons alone know with certainty who Jesus is – “the Holy One of God”.** (James 2:19 “Even demons believe ...and tremble”; they have supernatural knowledge to know this)
- **Demon was in the church disguised as “angels of light”.** (2 Corinth. 11:14 “For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.”)
- **Jesus dealt with the demon, not the man (“come out of him”)**
- **This exorcism is described as a teaching “doctrine”.** Exorcisms prior to Jesus were long procedures and often failed. Jesus’ power over demons is immediate and with complete authority (Eph. 1:21). V.28 “immediately His fame spread”, because of this Exorcism and Authoritative Teaching.
- **Demons were common.** Exorcism was not a peripheral part of Jesus’ ministry, but a core part. (casting out demons is mentioned 3 times in chapter 1 alone (1:23-27, 32, 39), and there are 4 major demonic exorcism passages in Mark!). There were no demon exorcisms in the OT prior to Jesus, indicating the Kingdom of God had arrived.

# Demon Possession - Today

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- **Demon possession** is an **extreme** form of evil completely controlling a person's mind, body and voice and is **beyond demonic influences** in society in the form of error, lies, false religion, etc.
- **Demons can NEVER possess a Christian** because they have the Holy Spirit indwelling. "Greater is He that is in you than he who is in the world." (1 John 4:4). However, they can oppress Christians through **fear, sin** and encounters with others who they possess.
- **Occult practices** are widespread in today's society, **disguising** themselves as popular culture, and can be extremely dangerous in opening doors to the demonic. (i.e. Acupuncture, Astrology, Drugs, Fortune telling, Hypnotism, forms of Meditation, Tarot Cards, Witchcraft, Clairvoyance/Psychic, Magic, Vampires/Zombies, Ouija Boards, Yoga, Mysticism, etc.)
- **Test the Spirits** (1 John 4:1) – they must confess Jesus Christ is God – any spirit or teaching that casts doubt on the Deity of Christ is not of God.

# “The god of this world”

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- One of the biggest lies the world of unbelievers has fallen for is, who is God?
- They think they can find God without Christ, and many think they have found Him, but the Bible says they are really serving the “god of this world”
- ....Satan himself, the serpent of old.
- If your “god” is not Jesus Christ or teach that Jesus was the Son of God who raised from the dead, then your “god” is actually Satan and you have been badly deceived.

# What the Bible Says about Satan

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- **Heb 2:14-15** - Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break **the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil**—<sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.
- **John 8:44** - You belong to **your father, the devil**, and you want to carry out your father's desires. **He was a murderer** from the beginning, not holding to the truth, **for there is no truth in him**. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for **he is a liar and the father of lies**.
- **1 John 5:19** - We know that we are children of God, and that **the whole world is under the control of the evil one**.



# What the Bible Says about Satan

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- **2 Cor 4:3-4** = And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup> **The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers**, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- **Acts 26:18** - to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and **from the power of Satan to God**, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me
- **Eph 2:1-3** - As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the **ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.** <sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

# Victory over Satan & Sin = Trust in Jesus

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- **2 Chronicles 20:** <sup>15</sup> And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, **Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.**
- <sup>17</sup> **Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: **fear not,** nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: **for the LORD will be with you.****

Like Peter learned, keep your Eyes on Jesus and you will not fall!

Mark 1:29-39

# Jesus' Ministry & Popularity Grow

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- Mark 1:21-38 describe one 24-hour period
- Extreme Popularity with the crowds (“whole city”)
- Jesus first Healing Miracle is a Fever - uses TOUCH – healing is immediate
- **Jesus continued to heal** “all the sick and demon possessed” all evening.
- Did not allow demons to speak because they knew Him
- **Jesus went off to SOLITARY place to PRAY in the MORNING** – if the Son of God needed time alone with His Father, how much more do we need time in prayer.

# 4 Purposes of Jesus

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1. **To Preach (not miracles \* )** Mark 1:38; 13:10
2. **To Call Sinners to Repentance (not the Righteous)** Mark 2:17
3. **To Serve (not to be served)** Mark 10:45
4. **To Die & be Resurrected after 3 Days (to save sinners)**  
(Mark 8:31, Ransom 10:45)

## \* Miracles

- **Purpose was to validate that He is who He Claimed to be (Messiah, King & Saviour), and authenticate the truthfulness of His message. Jesus was a Preacher.**
- No one ever denied His miracles or power (only the source)
- Salvation is the greatest miracle Jesus promises us today.

# Healing of Leper

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- **Leprosy**

- most horrible & difficult diseases to heal (Lev. 13::45-47; 2 Kings 5:7 – like raising someone from dead)
- Linked to Sin – declared “unclean”, required atonement sacrifices (Lev. 14:1-32). **Jesus called it a “cleansing”**
- Caused social outcast issues – like sin, it completely destroys the victim.

- **Sin is a Disease like leprosy**

- **Leper demonstrates humble surrender, faith & cry for mercy** (kneeling/begging)
- Jesus shows **“compassion”** & **“touched him”**
- Jesus broke Mosaic Law (Lev 5:3 defilement by touching) – Compassion Trumped the Law
- Claim of Deity that He would not be contaminated and also that He has come to fulfill the law.
- This miracle is significantly recorded in 3 Gospels
  - Also because it shows a powerful analogy of spiritual restoration sinners receive they put their faith in Jesus and the Gospel.
  - **Metaphor of the Cross** – a symbol of Jesus trading places with sinners in order to deliver them from sin (the outcast is relocated to the city, while, Jesus must now stay in “deserted places” v. 45)

# Question

**Do we show compassion to  
Serve the “Lepers” in our life  
like Jesus does?**

**Really think about this?**