

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO!  
A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF MARK BY BRENT AMATO  
© 2006  
LESSON NO.10-CHAPTER 9

- I. BEFORE WE GET GOING...
  - A. Why the study; why the title?
    1. For the seeker-Study Jesus because He is the “Gospel” (Mark 1:1, John 20:31)
    2. For the saint-Study Jesus to either fall in love with Him anew (John 21:15-17) or more deeply (Ephesians 3:14, 17-19)
    3. A “profitable pursuit” (II Timothy 3:16-17)
    4. Life is a race to be run and won (I Corinthians 9:24, Phil. 3:14)
  - B. “Go”
    1. “The Gospel of Mark has well been called a moving picture of the ministry of Jesus...The Gospel of action...Rapidity of action is its main characteristic...It gives us the works, rather than the words of Jesus.” (Earle)...While only 18 of the 70 parables of Jesus are in the Gospel of Mark, over half of the 35 recorded miracles of Jesus are in Mark’s Gospel. (Mark 16:20)
    2. Key word: “Immediately” (used 41 times; ie 1:10, 12, 18, 20, 21, 28, 29, 42, 43)-For example, “Mark seems to have been impressed by the swiftness with which the Lord’s commands were obeyed. He spoke! It was done!” (Phillips) (ie, 1:42)
    3. “I read in a book where a man called Christ went about doing good. It is very disconcerting to me that I am so easily satisfied with just going about.” (Anonymous)
  - C. Some background on the Book
    1. Its purpose-Proclaim Christ the Son of God sent to save (Mark 1:1, 11; 3:11; 5:7; 9:7; 12:1-11; 13:32; 14:61-62; 15:39) and the Servant sent to serve (Mark 10:45), whose power was manifested in His service through a series of victorious conflicts
    2. Key themes
      - a. Who?
        - (1). Who Jesus is (Mark 9:7, 15:39)
        - (2). Who we should be (Mark 16:14, 13:33-37)
      - b. What?
        - (1). What Jesus did (Mark 1:35, 6:45-51) and What we should do (Mark 10:21, 12:28-31)
        - (2). What Jesus taught (Mark 4:2-8, 13-20; 11:22-24) and What we should learn (Mark 4:9, 7:14, 16-18a)
      - c. Transformation (Ashey)
        - (1). Believe what Jesus believed (with transformed minds)
        - (2). Live the way Jesus lived (with transformed character)

- (3). Love and care the way Jesus did (with transformed relationships)
- (4). Minister the way Jesus ministered (with transformed service)
- (5). Lead the way Jesus led (with transformed influence)

D. Key (memory?) verses (Psalm 1:2)

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_

E. An outline (Wiersbe)

- 1. The presentation of the Servant (1:1-13)
- 2. The Servant's ministry in Galilee (1:14-9:50)
  - a. Period of popularity (1:14-6:29)
  - b. Period of withdrawal (6:30-9:32)
  - c. Period of completion (9:33-50)
- 3. The Servant's journey to Jerusalem (10)
- 4. The Servant's ministry in Jerusalem (11-16)
  - a. Public teaching and controversy (11:1-12:44)
  - b. Private teaching and ministry (13:1-14:31)
  - c. Arrest, trial and crucifixion (14:32-15:47)
  - d. Resurrection and ascension (16)

F. Resources-See Lesson No. 1

G. What's happening in Chapter 9?

- 1. Action!
  - a. The transfiguration (9:1-13)
  - b. Another demoniac healing (9:14-29)
  - c. Private teaching of the Disciples (9:30-50)
- 2. Behind the action
- 3. "The Three Amigos" (9:2)-The human circles around Jesus
  - a. All mankind (John 1:10, 3:17)
  - b. The multitude (6:34, 7:14)
  - c. The seventy (Luke 10:1, 17)
  - d. The twelve (3:13-19, 6:7)
  - e. The three (5:37, 9:2, 14:32-42)-Don't necessarily consider them as Jesus' "pet students" or superior to the others. McGee thinks they were the "weakest"
  - f. The one "whom Jesus loved" (John 13:23-25)
- 4. The spectrum of life (Deuteronomy 11:11)
  - a. From "the mountaintop" ("the kingdom of God") to "the valley" ("a waiting world, a world in Satan's iron grip, a world that challenged and mocked and waited below"-Phillips)

- b. “The truest test of Christianity is not on the mountaintop, but in the valley ”
        - c. “Jesus is the Lord of your ups and downs.”
      - 5. “Three spiritual secrets” (Wiersbe)
        - a. Suffering leads to glory
        - b. Power comes from faith
        - c. Service leads to honor
- II. THE TRANSFIGURATION (9:1-13, Matthew 16:28-17:13, Luke 9:27-36)
- A. Geography-most likely Mt. Hermon, on the northeast border of Palestine, “its most conspicuous and beautiful mountain”, snow-capped, rising to a height of approximately 10,000 feet
  - B. The prophecy (8:38-9:1)-“glory and the kingdom of God” referring in part to this event
  - C. The event (9:2-8)
    - 1. Definition (from Greek word, “metamorphosis”)
      - a. “To change the form or appearance”
      - b. “A change on the outside that comes from the inside...the opposite of masquerade” (Weirsbe)
      - c. Not the first “transfiguration” (John 1:14, Phil. 2:5-8)
    - 2. “Radiant...exceedingly white...white as light...His face shone like the sun...” (9:3, Matthew 17:2)
    - 3. The other “players”
      - a. Moses (the Law, the resurrected saints)
      - b. Elijah (the prophets, the raptured saints)
      - c. Both find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ (Luke 24:27, Hebrews 1:1-2)
      - d. “The three disciples knew them without being introduced. (Does this tell us something about heaven?)” (People’s Bible Commentary)
      - e. But at the end, “only Jesus” (9:8)
    - 4. “The Ultimate Testimony” (9:7, 1:11)
    - 5. “The Ultimate Exhortation” (9:7; 4:9, 23, 24; 7:14, 16)
    - 6. The “humanity” of the disciples
      - a. They almost missed it (Luke 9:32)
      - b. Peter’s ignored suggestion (9:5-6)-What was wrong with it? (9:7)
      - c. “Terrified” (9:6), like Moses (Hebrews 12:21)
    - 7. Footnote: The Transfiguration was the high point in the Lord’s earthly pilgrimage. From now on, His path led directly to the cross. (Luke 9:31, 51-53) The opposition would grow and become more bitter and better organized...” (Phillips)
  - D. The debriefing (9: 9-13)
    - 1. Another “gag order”
    - 2. The “Elijah” was John the Baptist (Matthew 17:13; compare 1:2-8 with Malachi 4:5-6)
    - 3. “They were entirely ignorant of the resurrection” (McGee)

- E. The three eventually got it!
  1. James in about 41 A.D. when he was executed by Herod
  2. Peter, as confirmed in his later writing (II Peter 1:16-18)
  3. John later saw it while still here on earth (Revelation 1:10-19)
- F. Editorial note: Don't sweat the discrepancy between six and eight days (Luke 9:28)
  1. Approximate number of days (Cole)
  2. Eight includes the day of the lesson and the day of the glory (Weirsbe)
- III. ANOTHER DEMONIAIC HEALING (9:14-29, Matt. 17:14-21, Luke 9:37-43a)
  - A. Flashbacks (1:23-26, 3:11-12, 5:1-20)
  - B. "Greatly amazed" (9:15, 16:5-6)
  - C. "It is all so graphic and vivid" (Phillips)
  - D. Two problems to be dealt with
    1. The disciples were unable to heal a demon-possessed boy, notwithstanding the authority delegated to them by Jesus (6:7, 13) and the fact that "He was well into the third year of instructing His disciples." (People's Bible Commentary)
    2. The disciples were in a debate with the scribes
  - E. Jesus' indictment (9:19)
  - F. "Bring him to me!" (9:10)-"We are attempting to do everything except bring lost men to Jesus Christ." (McGee)
  - G. "The Ultimate Issue" (9:23-24, Matthew 17:20)
    1. The disciples (9:19) and the father (9:22 contrasted with 1:40)
    2. The purpose of Jesus' question (9:21)
    3. The call to prayer which cultivates faith (9:29, 11:24)-"The church is weak because prayer is weak in the church." (McGee)
  - H. The only logical response (Luke 9:43a)
  - I. Linking the key to this event and the previous event-God's glory and your faith (Romans 4:20)
  - J. How little we know about them! (9:28-29)
  - K. Footnote: Was the boy dead? (9:26)
- IV. PRIVATE TEACHING OF THE DISCIPLES (9:30-50, Matthew 17:20-23, Luke: 9:43b-50)
  - A. The purpose of this "season" (8:31, 9:30-31a)-The highest priority
  - B. "The Classroom"
    1. Class "in session" (9:35)
    2. Teacher's insight into His students (Luke 9:47)
    3. The student's comprehension of the teaching (9:32)
  - C. Jesus' destiny (9:31-32)
    1. "Jesus always put His death and resurrection together." (McGee)
    2. A new element: betrayal! (note 8:31)
    3. The disciples' response: Lack of understanding and fear

- D. “Who’s the greatest?” (9:33-37)
  - 1. Pride, the root of all sin
  - 2. “A lesson found in a child, who if unspoiled manifests submission and humility” (Weirsbe) (10:15)
- E. “Who is for us?” (9:38-41)
  - 1. The myth of neutrality
  - 2. How is allegiance proven? (“not always with great miracles; sometimes with a cup of cold water”-Weirsbe) (Matthew 25:31-46)
- F. Radical “stuff”
  - 1. “First and Last” (9:35)
    - a. A repeated lesson taught (10:43-45; Luke 9:48; Matthew 23:11-12; Luke 22:23-27)
    - b. The ultimate example (Philippians 2:5-8)
  - 2. The seriousness of sin (9:42-48)
    - a. Causing a child to stumble
    - b. “Radical surgery”-Why not a literal exhortation? (7:20-23)-  
But what price are you willing to pay to avoid hell?
    - c. “Hell” (“the unquenchable fire”)
      - (1). Hebrew word “gehenna”, referring to an actual valley where King Ahaz worshipped Molech, the fire god and even sacrificed his children in the fire (II Chronicles 28:1-3; Jeremiah 7:31, 32:35)
      - (2). Matthew adds the adjective “eternal” (Matthew 18:8)
      - (3). “The Lord spoke of hell to the professed saints, and of heaven to acknowledged sinners.” (Cole)
- G. “Salt” (9:49-50)
  - 1. All are to be tested and purified by fire
  - 2. Salt is symbolic of purity and preservation
  - 3. The disciples were God’s salt (Matthew 5:13)
  - 4. Salt can lose its “saltiness”
    - a. “Profession without reality” (Phillips)
    - b. By quarreling about greatness
  - 5. One of the manifestations of “saltiness” is being at peace with one another (9:34; John 13:34-35, Romans 12:18, II Corinthians 13:11, I Thessalonians 5:13)
- V. SO WHAT?
  - A. What did Jesus teach that you needed to learn?
  - B. What type of person do you need to become?
  - C. What do you need to do?
- VI. BIBLIOGRAPHY-SEE LESSON NO. 1