

SCENE VI: Mark 3:13-19

THE STAGE:

1. YOU ARE THERE. Where are you? Who is with you?

THE SCRIPT:

2. Note: What two things are the disciples called to do?
3. Note: Over what are "the twelve" given authority?

SCENE VII: Mark 3:20-35

THE STAGE:

1. YOU ARE THERE. Where are you? What is the situation?

THE SCRIPT:

2. Note: His family's accusation, and his response (vv. 33-35)
3. Note: His response to the Scribes?
4. What is Jesus' plan to deal with the Devil?
"The consequence of not recognizing the Spirit's presence is perpetual nonforgiveness." [5]
5. What is the prerequisite to be family to Jesus?

THE REVIEWS:

- . What impresses you about Jesus' character in today's lesson?
- . What makes you wonder in these passages?



IF YOU WANT TO
LEARN MORE:
(Parallel Gospel Accounts)
Matthew 9:1-17
Luke 5:17-39; 6:1-19

Next Week:
"Seed Secrets"
Scriptures:
Mark 4

[1] Levine, Amy-Jill. 2023. *The Gospel of Mark : A Beginner's Guide to the Good News*. Nashville: Abingdon Press. p.14

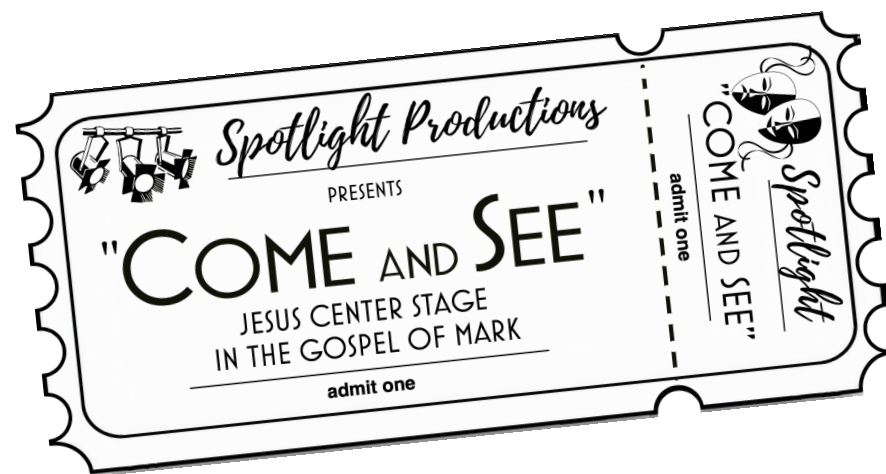
[2] <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/angels-and-demons/who-was-beelzebub-in-the-bible.html#bible>

[3] Skinner, Matthew L. 2017. *A Companion to the New Testament. The Gospels and Acts*. Waco: Baylor University Press. pp. 144-158

[4] *ibid.* Levine, pp. 16-19

[5] Carter, Warren, and Barbara E. Reid. 2019. *Mark*. Edited by Sarah Tanzer. Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press. p. 91

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LESSON #3

"Physician Under Observation"

—or—

"Call Me Crazy"

Scriptures:

Mark 2:13 – 3:35

Focus Scripture: Mark 3:6

"The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him."

Vocabulary Definitions:

Chiasm: (*see insert*)

Tax Collectors & Sinners: the ancient versions of loan sharks and drug dealers, pimps and traitors. Gluttons and drunkards who have more than enough to eat and drink, are the ancient versions of those who engage in conspicuous consumption. [1]

Beelzebub: Beelzebub is the Greek version of the name Baal-zebub, a Philistine deity. The name means “the lord of flies.” The Jews changed the name to “Beelzeboul,” as used in the Greek New Testament, which means “lord of dung,” also known as the “god of filth,” which later became a term of contempt. Beelzebub was a particularly despised deity, and the Jews used his name as another name for Satan.[2]

Brief Historical and/or Cultural Context:

As we saw last lesson, Mark's gospel uses apocalyptic themes, although he does not write in Jewish apocalyptic literary style. His gospel, however, is rife with battles between dark spirits and the Spirit of God. God comes visibly and audibly into the world of humans. Jesus struggles with the Devil in the wilderness and casts out demons from the beginning of his earthly ministry. God is active and refuses to remain aloof from the world. Throughout Mark's gospel, demonic beings are the ONLY ones who know who Jesus is.[3]

Mark introduces the dinner parties for which Jesus is famous – eating with tax collectors and “sinners.” These are people who harm the community, but they are not outcasts and destitute. “To the contrary, they left the community, and its values, on their own two feet. Jesus, diagnosing social sin – gluttony, selfishness, sanctimoniousness, – as a type of disease, explains that he is a physician who makes house calls.” [4]

“Authority” will also play a role in this week's lesson, as Jesus will be under the scrutiny of the Pharisees, Scribes, and Sadducees. Jesus will be labeled as demon-possessed and Jesus' own family will accuse him of being crazy.

SCENE I: Mark 2:13-17

THE STAGE:

1. YOU ARE THERE. Who is with you? What is happening?

THE SCRIPT:

2. Note: What question is asked of Jesus?
3. Note: Why might Jesus use the metaphor of a physician?

SCENE II: Mark 2:18-22

THE STAGE:

1. YOU ARE THERE. Who is with you?

THE SCRIPT:

2. Note: What question is asked of Jesus?
3. Note: Why might Jesus use the metaphor of a wineskin?

SCENE III: Mark 2:23-28, 1 Samuel 21:1-6

THE STAGE:

1. YOU ARE THERE. Who is with you? What are they doing?

THE SCRIPT:

2. Note: What question is asked of Jesus?
3. Note: 1 Samuel 21:1-6 – Why do you think Jesus misquotes scripture?

SCENE IV: Mark 3:1-6

THE STAGE:

1. YOU ARE THERE. Where are you? Who is with you? Describe the atmosphere.

THE SCRIPT:

2. Note: v.2 Motive? What is Jesus passionate about?
3. Note: Did Jesus ask permission to use the man as a prop?
4. What question does Jesus pose to the religious leaders?
5. What is their response?

SCENE V: Mark 3:7-12

THE STAGE:

1. YOU ARE THERE. Who is with you? What are you experiencing?

THE SCRIPT:

2. Note: From where are all these people, how are they behaving, and what does Jesus have to do?