

Mark 1:23-39 – The Same Gospel Confirmed

TSK, GreekLexicon, Handfuls, Gill, Trapp, Robertson, Poole, Clarke, Geneva, Barnes, Henry, INT, JFB, Alexander, Calvin?
Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: The Gospel of Jesus Christ was present at the Passover and confirmed by 2 remarkable miracles. First, God passed-over Egypt where his people were living and did not kill those who received the Passover – which was the Gospel, while those who did not eat the Passover mourned for their firstborns. Second, God opened up the Red Sea so his people could walk to freedom, even while he destroyed Pharaoh's army and his horses.

This same Gospel of Christ was confirmed in miraculous ways. Today you will see 3 ways the Gospel was confirmed.

Our headings are:

Demons
Diseases
Deeds

Our goals are: That you will readily believe and live the Gospel that was confirmed by signs and wonders, and that you will never be ashamed to make that Gospel known to the world.

Demons

23 Now there was a man in their synagogue 犹太教堂 with an unclean spirit. And he cried out,
1. In the synagogue (a place for worship but without sacrifices) Jesus met a man who was controlled by an evil spirit.

Something is noticeable here. This demon possessed man was in a synagogue for worship, but he was not a Christian. (You will see why that is an important fact.) How do we know that he wasn't a Christian? Christians can't be possessed by evil spirits because we have the Spirit of God.

24 saying, "**Let us alone!** What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the **Holy One of God!**"

2. The evil spirit in the man pleaded 央求 with Jesus not to destroy him.

a. He knew his end. He knew he would be destroyed but he tried to delay his destruction.

b. He knew his Judge. He knew who the "Holy One of God" was- Jesus.

Psalm 16:10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

This phrase "Holy One of God" did not apply to anyone else. So the demon's testimony was a confirmation of the Gospel. Matthew explains that the demon called Jesus the "Son of God." So "Holy One of God" and the "Son of God" referred to the same person. Additionally, the High Priest who represented Jesus promoted the same thing.

Exodus 28:36 "You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, *like* the engraving of a signet 私章: HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

It was this "Holy One" who would bring salvation to the world. And the demons knew it!

25 But Jesus rebuked 训斥 him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" 26 And when the unclean spirit had convulsed 抽筋 him and cried out with a loud voice, **he came out of him.**

3. Jesus silenced him (muzzled 戴口套子) and chased him out. The demon tried to shake the man to hurt him, but could not.

Luke 4:35. But why did Jesus tell the demon to be quiet when the demon was confirming who Jesus was- confirming the Gospel? First, the demon had done his job already. Second, Jesus wanted to show his power over demons. When he spoke, demons obeyed.

27 Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "**What is this? What new doctrine is this?** For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him." 28 And immediately His fame spread throughout all the region around Galilee.

4. The people who witnessed Christ's power over the demon stood amazed. They had seen others try to exorcise demons and failed, but this was no scam 骗局. They saw that Jesus' authority was from himself! Seeing this, the people would have taken notice of Jesus words in the future – of the Gospel that came from his lips.

Luke 4:36 Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, "**What a word this is!** For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out."

Yes, this doctrine was not new at all. It was at the Passover. It was in Zechariah. It was in Isaiah 7.

5. The amazed people started talking about what they had seen and heard all over the country.

6. Lesson:

a. Like then, there are often are non-believers in worship. This is why a minister must call them to Christ.

Yes, worship is for Christians, but there are those who don't know the Lord and we must make an introduction.

Furthermore, don't hesitate to bring non-believers into worship. This is a most effective way to help!

b. Like the demons who possessed this man, and like Jews in Acts 3:14, there are many who know about Christ and say they believe in him but deny him so they could live for themselves.

Like the demons, and like the Jews, they too will be condemned. So when people's lives don't match their words, you need to bring the Gospel to them.

Diseases

29 Now as soon as they had come out of the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once.

1. Then Jesus went to Simon and Andrew's house—proof they did not abandon their families—and saw Simon's mother-in-law sick with a great fever, according to Dr. Luke. (Peter was not the first pope as RC's argue. He had a wife. There is more proof of this. Cephas (stone) was another name for Peter.)

1Corinthians 9:5 Do we have **no right to take along a believing wife**, as *do* also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and **Cephas**?

31 So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And **she served them.**

2. So Jesus took her by the hand and instantly healed her. Healing on the Sabbath was a violation of the Jewish tradition, but Jesus started showing how the Sabbath was to be properly used. And this great healing would have removed all doubts from the family about the legitimacy 合理的 of Peter and Andrew's new calling.

3. Having received this miraculous healing from Jesus, Peter's mother-in-law then served them. She did not become a Christian because she was healed. She was already a believer. So she lived as a believer. She showed her thankfulness.

32 At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed. 33 And the whole city was gathered together at the door. 34 Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not **allow the demons to speak**, because they knew Him.

4. Then many others with demons were freed and many with diseases were healed as well. (But notice how the people came after the evening when the Sabbath was officially over. They lived either under fear of the Pharisees or false conviction from the Scribes.) Regardless, **the Lord was moved by the sorrow of the people – as they were overwhelmed by demons and diseases.** The Savior was a salve to every sore.

Matthew 4:24 Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics 癲癇, and paralytics 癱瘓; and He healed them.

5. Lessons:

a. Those who insist on celibacy in order to do God's work are slandering God.

b. God is always ready to listen to your prayers for the healing of the saints. Never stop praying.

c. Why were miracles done then?

First, Jesus was moved with compassion for his saints. But this only happened 3 main times in the Bible.

(BTW, if miracles were common you would see empty hospital beds. If you are sick, go see a doctor. God still shows compassion through medicines...through the ability of the body to heal itself...)

Second, and primary, miracles proved that Christ's Words were true. This strengthened the faith of his people – the greater purpose. So you can have confidence in the truthfulness of Christ's words today. Those who demand new signs to confirm the Word of God today have a low view of the Word of God. But if you read and believe God's Word, you will know that God has already provided many miraculous confirmations.

d. Miracles were not done to make people believe. Many saw miracles but didn't believe. Man's heart issue destroyed his ability to believe in Christ by his own efforts.

e. Watch out for things that can take you away from the focus on the word – as noble as those things might be. For instance, you see how many churches now focus on soup kitchens, soccer camps, or digging wells overseas or building hospitals. The goals might be noble, but the noblest goal is to bring the Gospel.

1Corinthians 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.

Poole: ...the turning of men from one opinion to another, without a change of heart, as to the love of sin, is but a turning of men from one quarter of the devil's kingdom to another.

Deeds

35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a **solitary place; and there He prayed.**

1. Jesus took time to pray, setting a great pattern for you. Yes, Jesus was busy from sun-up to sundown the previous day. He had a long Sabbath – casting out demons, healing, and preaching the Gospel. But when that day was past, he took time to pray. He knew that prayer was not only for Sundays. Lu 5:16 6:12 9:18,28,29 Mr 6:46.

Psalm 5:3 **My voice You shall hear in the morning,** O LORD; In the morning I will direct *it* to You, And I will look up.

He did not allow **natural desires of catering to people’s physical needs to control him.** He knew he needed to pray.

36 And Simon and those who were with Him searched for Him. 37 When they found Him, they said to Him, "**Everyone is looking for You.**" 38 But He said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, **because for this purpose I have come forth.**" 39 And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons.

2. Jesus took time to preach. He did not allow his desire to heal people to take over his life. He did not allow his desire to pray take over his life. And he did not allow the mob to rule – to tell him what to do. **“Everyone likes it” is not ground to change your action.** Consider Luke’s account of this incident.

Luke 4:42 Now when it was day, He departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowd sought Him and came to Him, **and tried to keep Him from leaving them;**

The people surely tried to get Jesus to show more miracles, but **he was not fooled by adulation.**

3. Jesus then called his disciples to join him in other towns so that he might preach the Gospel. All needed the Gospel.

Jesus came for all of the lost sheep of the house of Israel. If there were not Gospel there would be no life!

Isaiah 61:1 "The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To **preach good tidings to the poor;** He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance 复仇 of our God; To comfort all who mourn,

John 17:8 "For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.

4. Lessons:

a. How is your devotional life? Do you take time to pray and read you Bible and meditate on what you read? Does busy-ness get the better of you?

b. Feel sorry for a church which caters to the desires and “felt needs” of the people? Many people like those churches, but you must hold on to a church that promotes truth and tells you what God wants you to know.

c. Are you taking the message of Jesus to those who are lost? They may not have opportunity to come to you.

Conclusion:

Demons, diseases, and deeds all confirmed that Jesus was the Christ and confirmed his message of salvation.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. **With the one true Gospel of the OT confirmed in the NT, let your life be shaped by that Gospel and share it with the world.** That’s it. These are your goals.

2. **But how much has the Gospel shaped your life?** If your life hasn’t been truly transformed by the Gospel, then you will have little interest in passing this message on to the world. You will have little interest in the kingdom – and much interest in your part of the world. You will see the Gospel as a semi-unique thing that influences what you might do on some Sundays, but not as the essential life giving message.

3. **So let me challenge you to take the time to reflect on the full Gospel of Christ and how great it is.**

Finally: No Gospel no life. Do you want new life? Then you have to believe the Gospel. You were a sinner in need of a Savior and Jesus, out of love, came and lived and died for you and rose again. If you receive this, you will have new life.