

UNMATCHED AUTHORITY

INTRODUCTION:

As we will see, Jesus Christ was the most passionate Man in history, and this was because He believed more than any other in His message. He knew what was in the heart of man, and He knew the eternal issues that rest in moral choices. This was why He was so supremely successful in preaching the Gospel of repentance and belief. Mark begins the body of his gospel with an event in the town of Capernaum. The significance of this event has to do with the character of Jesus' ministry. Mark begins by focusing our attention on Jesus' teaching, specifically focusing on His authority and the people's response to it.

I. AUTHORITY IN WORD (Mark 1:21-22)

- a. Jesus after calling His first four _____ went to Capernaum where He began His Galilean ministry.
- b. Capernaum had a _____ eight feet tall that extended for half a mile in front of the village.
- c. A _____ was a community building, they came about during the Babylonian exile and upon their return to Israel they continued to build them.
- d. Mark tells us that Jesus' _____ caused quite a stir in the synagogue of Capernaum.
- e. Jesus was described as teaching with _____, not as the scribes.
- f. Jesus preached God's Word, not _____ God's Word.

II. AUTHORITY OVER EVIL (Mark 1:23-26)

- a. As Jesus taught and the people sat astonished as they listened to His words, there was in the synagogue another whose _____ got the best of him.
- b. The _____ speaking through the man cried out at Jesus and his shriek was full of malicious aggression.
- c. It is important for us to realize that this man was completely under the _____ of this unclean spirit.
- d. Jesus Christ, the divine messianic King had been _____.

- e. What does this teach us? That there is hope for the _____ of us.

III. AUTHORITY INCITES DEBATE (Mark 1:27-28)

- a. In the two final verses of this passage, we see the _____ of the people who had witnessed what took place in the synagogue.
- b. What had taken place and what Jesus had _____ began to get out. (Mark 1:39)

CONCLUSION:

The people who heard Jesus teach and witnessed His authority and power on that Sabbath day were left with no excuses. What about you? Just as those who were in the synagogue in Capernaum are without excuse, you too are without excuses. Perhaps you have always thought Jesus was a good teacher, or a moral idealist, or a misunderstood social activist, but coming to those conclusions about Jesus is not enough. Those people were amazed in the moment but if they did not embrace the truth of His preaching to repent and believe then all their amazement was ultimately worthless. Do not be like them, come to Christ in repentance and believe in faith in Jesus Christ and His finished work of salvation.

Let's not forget the four fishermen that Christ had called to be His disciples, they were there that Sabbath with Him. These men witnessed what took place and saw the amazement and astonishment of the people. They saw this same authority in teaching and in power over and over again in the three years they were with Jesus. At the right time they put this authority to use in their lives. Think of Peter as he preached at Pentecost, he preached in the authority of Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit, and thousands came to faith in Christ. We are the body of Christ. Our lives are to speak God's Word authoritatively. As the Church we are to be involved in deliverance from sin. Christ calls His followers to minister in His authority. Jesus is with us. His authority rests with His Church. Let's possess and use it with humility and energy to advance His kingdom.