

Tuesday Evening Bible Study
Series #14: The Gospel of Mark
Session #5: Chapters 7-8
Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Outline

A. Part One: Who is Jesus? (1:1 – 8:26)

1. *Authority and Power of Jesus (1:14 – 3:6)*
2. *Jesus's miracles and teaching in Galilee (3:7 – 8:26)*
 - a. *Healing beside the sea (3:7-12)*
 - b. *Naming of the Twelve Disciples (3:13-19)*
 - c. *Controversy and True Family (3:20-35)*
 - d. *Parables & Sayings (4:1-34)*
 - e. *The Culmination of Jesus' Mighty Works (4:35 – 5:43)*
 - f. *The Mission of the Twelve (6:6b-13)*
 - g. *Interlude: The death of John the Baptist (6:14-29)*
 - h. *First Feeding Cycle (6:30-56)*
 - i. The Tradition of the Elders (7:1:23)
 - The law of Moses (Torah)
 - The oral tradition (The Tradition [Law] of the Elders)
 - Evolved into the Mishnah
 - j. Jesus turns to Gentiles (7:24-37)
 1. The Syrophoenician woman's faith (7:24-30)
 - Dogs were considered an unclean animal. Jesus spoke a harsh insult.
 - The final exorcism is unusual in that there is no physical confrontation between exorcist and demon, nor is there any explicit word of command—heightening of the power of Jesus.
 2. Jesus cures a deaf man (7:31-37)
 - In the ancient Greco-Roman and Jewish worlds, saliva was regarded as having a therapeutic effect.
 - k. Second Feeding Cycle (8:1-21)
 - Just like the first cycle above, it follows the sequence of miraculous feeding, sea journey, dispute with the Pharisees, further instructions to the disciples, and the gift of hearing or sight.
 2. Feeding of the Four Thousand (8:1-10)
 - Jesus responds to the hunger of the people.
 - Here Jesus observes human suffering and responds to a need.
 - Dalmanutha – other sources say Magdala
 3. Pharisees demand a Sign (8:11-13)
 - “sign” here is used as an authenticating element, and is not symbolic.
 4. Conclusion of the bread discourse (8:14-21)
 - Commentary on the continued misunderstanding of the disciples.
 1. Jesus cures a blind man at Bethsaida (8:22-26)

- This is a pivotal transition in Mark's entire narrative.
- Set up for the section to follow.

Themes to look for

- 1. Extent of Jesus' healing power**
- 2. The Messianic secret.**
- 3. Son of God.**

Resources

Notes from HarperCollins Study Bible (NRSV), 1989

"The Gospel of Mark" in *Sacra Pagina*, Daniel J. Harrington, ed. (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2008)

https://www.bible-history.com/maps/palestine_nt_times.html

