

# **Jesus Christ, the Son of God**

*Studies in the Gospel of Mark*

**Defilement from Within**

**Lesson 10**

**Mark 7**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*

*March 7, 2021*

# The Plan of Salvation

- ▶ Reversing the curse with blessing
- ▶ The 1<sup>st</sup> promise (Genesis 3:15)
- ▶ Abel – The beginning of blessing by faith
- ▶ The flood – The impossible obstacle exposed (Genesis 6:5; 8:21)
- ▶ The 2<sup>nd</sup> promise: blessing for creation and man (Genesis 9:8-17)
- ▶ The foundational promise to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3; 17:1-9)
- ▶ The great nation – holy priests (Exodus 2:23-24; 19:3-8)
- ▶ The Law of Moses – the impossible obstacle exposed again
  - Commandments WITH penalty or reward
  - National obedience rewarded with life in the land as a great nation
  - The Law of Moses never provided the blessing of eternal life

# Mark 7 – The Blessing and the Law

- ▶ The end of the demonstration in 586 B.C.
- ▶ A second demonstration with a more do-able Law edited by human “wisdom”
- ▶ Jesus challenges the Law of the day and the principle of blessing by Law
- ▶ Jesus teaches the impossible obstacle to blessing
- ▶ Jesus came to fulfill the Law by making a holy nation of priests
- ▶ Outline of Mark 7
  - The futility of human wisdom (Mark 7:1-23)
  - Two teaching miracles of blessing apart from the Law (Mark 7:24-37)

# The Pharisees Challenge Jesus (7:1-5)

- ▶ The issue – the disciples ate bread with unwashed hands
- ▶ Mark explains for the Gentiles – a tradition of the elders for ritual washing
- ▶ The Pharisees use this as an occasion to discredit Jesus

# Jesus' 1<sup>st</sup> Response (7:6-8)

- ▶ Jesus answers from God's Word – Isaiah condemns hypocrisy
- ▶ The result of human wisdom
  - Lip service with an estranged heart
  - The futility of human “wisdom” to enable worship of God
  - Teaching precepts of men causes abandoning the precepts of God
  - Experts at neglecting the commandments of God to hold traditions of men
  - The futility of human wisdom (Jeremiah 8:8-9)
- ▶ Human wisdom separates from God

# Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> Response (7:9-13)

- ▶ Human wisdom v. Divine wisdom – an illustration
- ▶ Experts at setting aside the commandments of God
  - A command with blessing: Honor your father and mother
  - Permission to disobey – “Corban” – devoted to God
  - The new law: disobey your parents and live long on the earth
  - The new law: prevents eternal life
- ▶ Human wisdom invalidates the Word of God

# Jesus' 3<sup>rd</sup> Response (7:14-23)

- ▶ The heart is the heart of the matter
- ▶ The requirement for holiness – an undefiled heart
- ▶ The requirement for ears to hear
- ▶ External actions cannot purify the heart
- ▶ The evil proceeds from the heart and defiles the man
  - Evil thoughts, sexual immorality, thefts, murders, adulteries
  - Deeds of coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality
  - Envy, slander, pride, foolishness
- ▶ Two mutually exclusive ways (Prov 14:8, 12; 16:25)
- ▶ Christ must dwell in your hearts through faith (Eph 3:17)

# The Blessing of God to Gentiles (7:24-30)

- ▶ Jesus visits a Gentile area – Sidon
- ▶ Jesus is sought by a Gentile woman to deliver her daughter from a demon
- ▶ Jesus denied her request: satisfy the children first, not dogs!
- ▶ The Law excludes Gentiles from the blessing of the Law
- ▶ The woman's appeal – dogs feed on crumbs under the table
- ▶ “Because of this answer . . . the demon has gone out”
- ▶ A woman with the faith of Abraham is blessed through Abraham
- ▶ Access to the blessing of Abraham is by faith in Christ Jesus

# A Secret Miracle (7:31-37)

- ▶ This miracle only recorded in Mark
- ▶ Brought to Jesus for healing by laying His hands on the man
- ▶ An unusual manner of healing
  - Jesus took him away from the crowd, by himself
  - Jesus put his fingers in his ears
  - Jesus touched his saliva on the man's tongue
  - Jesus looked up to heaven
  - Jesus sighed deeply
  - Jesus said: “Ephphatha” (“Be opened”)
- ▶ The man was healed completely
- ▶ Orders given not to tell anyone
- ▶ Order disobeyed – “He has done all things well.”

# Defilement from Within

- ▶ The heart is the heart of the matter – It must be changed
- ▶ Man's wisdom man cannot change the heart – It exposes the heart
- ▶ God's wisdom is the way of blessing – eternal life in the land
- ▶ The blessing comes from God through faith
- ▶ Eternal satisfaction only comes by the sovereign grace of God
- ▶ Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees