



HEBRON

Sunday, May 19, 2019

Dr. Landon Dowden

BELIEVE IN JESUS

Mark 4:35-5:43

I. CONSIDER THE DESPERATE SITUATIONS

- a. Mark recorded four situations of people in desperate need:
  - i. Situation #1 – The disciples in a boat in the middle of the night in the middle of a lake in the middle of a storm
  - ii. Situation #2 – A demon possessed man
  - iii. Situation #3 – A bleeding woman
  - iv. Situation #4 – A little girl who is dead
- b. What does Mark want us not to miss?
  - i. The desperateness of each situation:
    1. The fishermen are certain they are perishing and there is nothing they can do about the storm.
    2. No chain can hold the demoniac, and no one can help him.
    3. The woman spent all of her money and is none the better for it. No physician can heal or help her.
    4. The little girl is dead.
  - ii. If left to our own resources and our own righteousness, then we are all doomed. Without Christ, we are not just in danger and desperate and diseased – we are dead.
    1. Like those in the boat, we cannot save ourselves (Rom. 3)
    2. Like the demoniac, we are alienated, hostile, doing evil (Col. 1:21)
    3. Like the bleeding woman, we are unrighteous and defiled (Is. 64:6; Zech. 3:3-5)
    4. Like Jairus' daughter, we are dead (Eph. 2:1-3)
  - iii. Garland: Those most open to receiving Jesus' power in their lives are those who recognize their own desperate need of it. Those who are not open to His power are no less desperate but have convinced themselves that they do not need it.



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## II. CONSIDER THE DIVINE SOLUTIONS

- a. Mark recorded four divine solutions – one for each desperate situation:
  - i. Solution #1 - The winds and waves obey the voice of their Creator. (Ps. 107:28-32)
  - ii. Solution #2 - The demons obey and leave the man and enter a herd of pigs.
  - iii. Solution #3 – The woman stops bleeding and is healed.
  - iv. Solution #4 – The little girl is raised and given life.
- b. What does Mark want us to see?
  - i. Christ alone has the power and authority to do something. Jesus is equal to any threat that may shatter human life. He's up to the task. He is a sufficient deliverer.
    - 1. He is Lord over danger.
    - 2. He is Lord over demons. (Is. 65:1-5a)
    - 3. He is Lord over disease.
    - 4. He is Lord over death.
  - ii. Christ has the desire to deliver His people.
  - iii. Christ is ministering to every demographic.
    - 1. A child – a woman – a man
    - 2. The poor and powerless – the wealthy and powerful
  - iv. Christ is ministering to the ritually impure. He's touching those who are defiled and instead of defiling Himself, He is delivering each one.
- c. Christ is the only solution for us as well. (Col. 1; Eph. 2; Heb. 2)

## III. CONSIDER THE DIFFERENT REACTIONS

- a. Not everyone reacted the same to Jesus' solutions to the desperate situations:
  - i. Some reacted with fear.
  - ii. Some reacted with foolishness.
  - iii. Some reacted with faith.
- b. Some of us are not afraid of Jesus and we should be.
  - i. The disciples were afraid – the townspeople were afraid – the woman who was healed was afraid.
  - ii. Jesus reigns over all things including each one of us.
  - iii. When He returns to judge the living and the dead, those who have not fled to Him will be afraid of Him!



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- c. Some of us lack faith in Jesus and we should not.
  - i. Maybe we need to hear Jesus' words afresh today – DO NOT FEAR, ONLY BELIEVE!
- d. Perhaps we think He lacks the power to do something we are praying for Him to do.
- e. Perhaps we just don't believe in Him at all.
- f. We should not let anyone keep us from coming to or trusting in Christ – Jairus (synagogue leader).
- g. Believing does not mean that Christ will rescue us from every storm or heal every disease or remove every trouble, but it does mean that whatever trouble we face will not have the final word over us.

**IV. CONSIDER THE DELIGHTED SHARING**

- a. How did the woman know that Christ could heal her? Someone told her!
- b. Like the Gerasene man, we are to declare how much Jesus has done for us and how He has had mercy on us! (Mk. 4:19-20)