

June 24, 2018 – Elmont Baptist Church

Message Series: The Gospel of Mark

Week 22: “...No Might Work There...”

Text: Mark 6:1-6

We have launched into unpacking and understanding the Book of Mark. Mark’s audience is Romans believers, and as theologian Danny Akin says, “he is telling them that Jesus is the Messiah King and suffering servant who actively ministers on our behalf and gives his life as a ransom for many.”

Remember, Mark lays this out strategically where Jesus has just finished teaching through three parables about who He is for those who are ready to receive it and really listening. He is teaching them that He is worthy of all worship and glory, something only reserved for God, Yahweh, in their minds – meaning Jesus is God! Then he records Jesus showing or illustrating the truth of who He is through miracles. These miracles show His authority over nature, satan/demonic power, over disease, and over death. Now, if we think under the umbrella of the miracles, we see some great parallels. People in hopeless and catastrophic circumstances coming to Jesus and finding hope. Where death and misery reign, Jesus brings miraculous hope!

Today, we see Jesus head home. We’ve seen Him interact with His family once before, and it didn’t go so well. Luke records another time that Jesus went to His hometown, and that didn’t go so well either. He taught and they tried to kill him.

Let’s Look at the Story...

- ✓ **Jesus is Invited to Teach**
- ✓ **His Teaching Astonishes People**
- ✓ **Astonishment Turns to Offense**
- ✓ **Their Offense Brings Jesus’ Rebuke**
- ✓ **Jesus will Not Bless Unbelief**
- ✓ **Unbelief in the Face of Evidence is Tragic**

There is something about Jesus that causes the rulers of the synagogue to invite Jesus to teach. As always, His teaching blows their minds. Rather than believing or having an openness at most likely a call to repent, they ask a series of questions that make them feel better about dismissing Jesus and His teaching. Basically saying that He is just a carpenter (indicating that Joseph has already died). By saying He is the son of Mary, they are saying they really don’t who His father is. They knew what His family thought of Him (Mark 3:21 – that He is out of His mind), and so they mention all His family. Jesus gives a rebuke is His statement about a prophet and honor.

It’s the next verse (v 5) that gets misused. This is not to say that their unbelief rendered Jesus powerless. It’s that He did “no mighty work there”. He did some miracles, but nothing like He did in other places. Each time through Mark we see this pattern – Jesus teaches/proclaims the Kingdom and then authenticates and illustrates the redeeming power, freedom, and healing of the Kingdom through miracles. Here, since they reject the teaching of the Kingdom, they forfeit the blessing and work that illustrate and authenticate the Kingdom. It’s not that Jesus was powerless, but that He refused (could not) violate His character to bless unbelief. As Tim Keller said, “He ‘could’ not do a deed that would not redeem”.

Let’s Learn from the Story...

- ✓ **It’s Either Offense or Obedience**
 - We cannot say we love Jesus
 - And Refuse to do what He says
- ✓ **Find the Miraculous in the Mundane**
 - Nothing is lost or worthless
 - In the hands of Jesus

Bottom line:

Jesus is not someone that we walk away from indifferently. He demands your everything – your sin, struggles, insecurities, hate, greed, addictions, despair, idol chasing – all of it. And in exchange He gives you Himself in grace and life eternal. But most of the people that have ever been given life by this incredible God, will be offended that Jesus wants their rubbish and wants to give them real life. They’re offended because they think their rubbish is great.

And then we, that claim to love Jesus as our Savior, will miss celebrating and praising God for so many blessings, because our sights are set on tomorrow and something BIG. Don’t do that! Don’t say “No mighty work there”. Thank God for your path and journey and all it required for you to have the people around you and to know and love Him like you do.

Thinking it Through...

- ✓ **What has Jesus said in the sacred Scriptures that you are refusing to obey?**
- ✓ **What are the miracles Jesus has done in and around you that you often overlook?**