

THE GOSPEL OF
MARK®
servant **KING**

CHAPTER 1, PART 2

Verses 29-45

PREPARATION & BEGINNING

Our previous lesson ended with Jesus teaching in the synagogue on the Sabbath and casting out the unclean spirit of a man who was crying out to Him. Pastor Chuck Smith said, “So suddenly there’s a buzz about Jesus of Nazareth—the things that He is doing, the things that He is saying.” This week’s Scripture picks up with Jesus leaving that same synagogue with His disciples and immediately continuing His work as the Servant King—healing, preaching, and cleansing. We also see that He made time for prayer and devotion to the Father, and we see the intentions of His mission.

MEMORY VERSE

But He said to them, ‘Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth.’ **Mark 1:38**

Read Mark 1:29-45. Looking at Jesus thoughtfully in prayer, what attribute of His character speaks to you today? What attribute causes you to love Him more?

JESUS, GOD’S SERVANT, HEALS A MOTHER-IN-LAW

1. Jesus was invited to the home of Simon (Peter) and Andrew. They might have planned to have a meal with Him, but something was amiss. What was the situation (v.30)?

2. What did Jesus do for Peter's mother-in-law?
"He came and _____ her by the _____ and _____ her up, and _____ the fever left her (v.31)."
3. How do the accounts of Matthew and Luke differ? (See Mathew 8:15; Luke 4:39.)
4. What beautiful example did Peter's mother-in-law give us to follow? What was her response to Jesus lifting her up?
5. Has Jesus ever helped you through a dangerous or difficult situation? If so, how can you or have you expressed your gratitude to Him? (See Romans 12:1-2.)

Each Gospel writer had a slightly different perspective while recording this account. Each writer highlighted different details. These accounts do not conflict. Just as four people might witness the same event and all recount different details of the story, each Gospel account highlights certain characteristics of Jesus.

A GENERAL ACCOUNT OF HEALING

6. Now we come to the evening of the Sabbath, their day of rest, which began in Mark 1:21 (part of Lesson 1). Why did the whole city come to Peter's house (vv.32-33)?
7. After a full day of ministry, how did Jesus respond to the crowd (v.34)? (See Luke 4:40.)
8. How many times does Mark chapter 1 mention the casting out of demons?
9. How did Jesus exercise His power and authority over demons (v.34)? (Cross reference: Matthew 8:16; Luke 4:41.)

12. Why did Simon and the other disciples search for Jesus?

13. After Jesus had finished with His prayer time, the disciples commented that “everyone was looking for You.” How does Jesus direct His disciples for that day (vv.38-39)?

14. What was Jesus's priority (v.38b)? (Also see Mark 1:15.)

JESUS, GOD’S SERVANT, HEALS A LEPER

15. How did the leper come to Jesus in verse 40?

DIG DEEPER

Also see Matt. 8:2 and Luke 5:12 and *record His words* that show He came with:

- a. Great humility:
- b. A firm belief of His power:
- c. Submission to the will of Christ:

“Anyone who has never trusted the Savior is spiritually in worse shape than this man was physically.”
Warren Wiersbe

16. What does the leper call Jesus in Matthew 8:2 and Luke 5:12?

17. What did the leper believe that Jesus could do about his leprosy (v.40)?

18. Which action of Jesus demonstrates His compassion and willingness to make this leper clean (v.41)?

19. Jesus's words were "I am _____; be _____."
What did the leper immediately experience (v.42)?

DID YOU KNOW?

Leprosy was a terrifying disease in Jesus' day because there was no known cure. For those who contracted this disease, they would be banished from their home and city. They would be forced to live in a community with other lepers, far away from family and friends, until they were either cured or killed from the disease.

Pastor Chuck Smith

DIG DEEPER

Leviticus chapter 13 provides a great deal of detail surrounding leprosy.

- 1) Who conducted the examination and made the determination? (Lev. 13:2-3)
- 2) What action was taken if leprosy was confirmed? (Lev. 13:4-5)
- 3) What was declared if leprosy? (Lev. 13:44)
- 4) What was a leper required to do? (Lev. 13:45)
- 5) Where was a leper required to dwell? (Lev. 13:46)
- 6) What happened to the leper's clothing? (Lev 13:52)

“Woe unto that man whose devotion is observed by everybody, and who never offers a secret supplication. Secret prayer is the secret of prayer, the soul of prayer, the seal of prayer, the strength of prayer. If you do not pray alone, you do not pray at all. I care not whether you pray in the street, or in the church, or in the barrack-room, or in the cathedral; but your heart must speak with God in secret, or you have not prayed.” *Charles Spurgeon*

CHALLENGE

Sin is also an incurable disease, and we all have it. It starts out small but then spreads and takes root deep down. It leads to separation from God but also often breaks relationships with family and friends. Only the healing touch of Jesus can miraculously take away our sin and restore us to real living. First, we must realize our inability to cure ourselves and then go to Jesus and ask for His healing help. He is always willing. Using the Leviticus 13 reference above and other sources, consider some of the shared characteristics of leprosy and sin (Pastor John Randall).

Provide a Scripture or an example for two of the following:

- Goes deeper than the skin
- Starts small but spreads
- Causes numbness; sense of feeling is lost; hardness of heart
- Leads to Isolation
- Attempts to cover oneself with self-righteousness so as to hide condition
- Destined for the fire

PERSONAL

Is there a sin that you have allowed into your life that is spreading and taking over your life? Maybe it is an attitude of justifying the action, or your heart is hard. What will you do about it today?

20. After Jesus healed the leper, what warning and instructions did Jesus give him (vv.43-44)?

DIG DEEPER

See Leviticus 14 for a deeper understanding of the cleansing of skin diseases that Moses commanded.

21. Jesus instructed the leper to present himself to the High Priest and bring the appropriate offering. How does Leviticus 14:4-7 give us a picture of the beautiful redemptive work of Jesus cleansing us from sin and its contagiousness that leads to death?

a. Who do the two birds represent? The birds killed in a vessel over running water represent who (Lev. 14:4-5)?

b. What does the Priest do with the blood of the killed bird? After the person is purified, what does the Priest do with the live bird (Lev. 14:7)?

c. On the eighth day, what does the Priest do (Lev. 14:10-13)?

d. The Blood and the oil applied to the right ear; right thumb; right great toe symbolize what (Lev. 14:14-15)?

22. After his miraculous healing, did this leper show himself to the priest?

a. What did he do instead?

b. How did his actions affect Jesus?

PERSONAL

Only Jesus can heal our deepest sickness, which is sin. He has the power *and* He is willing. Have you come to Him? Do you need a touch from Jesus today?

DWELL ON THIS

Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him: “I am willing,” “Be healed.”

