

The Offense of Jesus

Mark Chapter 2

- Mar 2:1 **1) The Offense of Who He Is** vs 1-12 (We are not in control)
When He had come back to Capernaum several days afterward, it was heard that He was at home.
- Mar 2:2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room, not even near the door; and He was speaking the word to them.
- *This house is packed and Jesus is speaking to them the gospel on the kingdom of God.*
- Mar 2:3 And they *came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four men.
- Mar 2:4 Being unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had dug an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic was lying.
- Mar 2:5 And Jesus seeing their faith *said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."
- *This paralytic couldn't walk, He couldn't go to work. He is dependent on people. People always had to care for him.*
 - *He has something going for him ...He has four friends.*
 - *They grab him and tell him we are going to the rabbi who when He teaches miracles happen.*
 - *They get to the house and it is crowded. They go to the roof and start digging through. This all is a lot of work for their friend. But their hopes are high. They are working to get the hole big enough and they strain to get him down in the room. They do all this because this is the golden opportunity.*
 - *2 Samuel 5:20 "And David came to Baalperazim, and David smote them there, and said, The LORD hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place Baalperazim." Baalperazim = Lord of the Breaks or Breakthrough Sometimes we need a break.*
 - *They stick their heads into the hole to hear and watch the healing that will take place.*
 - *The four are trying to make out what Jesus said. "What did He say? Your STRENGTH is Given?" "Your LIMBS are LIVING" Another would say, "I think He said your sins are forgiven." NAW!!!*
 - *Can people's sin be forgiven by the faith of others? Here we see that it is by faith that we can bring our friends to Jesus. But we can only bring them to him. This man, this crippled man must stand alone before Jesus. Our friends cannot rescue us. Every man must stand on his own before Jesus. We see*
 - *This man is crippled. Sin will damage us. Our sin will prevent us from life as it should be*
 - *This man has friends. They desire a better life for him. (A Gift of friends)*
 - *This man must face God alone.*
 - *This man is fearful. Uncertainty and No control. (Matt 9) Jesus calmed his fear "Be of good cheer"*
 - *This man had a greater need than being a paralytic He was a sinner. We have a greater need.*
 - *Jesus came to forgive SIN.*
 - *They are not the only ones who are questioning Jesus' statement.*
- Mar 2:6 But some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts,
- Mar 2:7 "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?"
- *The scribes are correct ...They are just missing a piece of information.*
 - *The Scribes are offended because Jesus is claiming to have the authority of God, more accurately is God*

Mar 2:8 Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were reasoning that way within themselves, *said to them, "Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts?"

- *Jesus can perceive the thoughts and intents of the heart. This is both comforting and disturbing.*
 - **Comforting** that He can identify the real reason we hurt or are angry or sick so that we can trust Him for help and deliverance.
 - **Disturbing** that He can identify the real reason we hurt or are angry or sick and that we cannot hide or remain in that condition and that we are found out.

Mar 2:9 "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven'; or to say, 'Get up, and pick up your pallet and walk'?"

- *Both are easy to say but one is perceptibly provable. That is what Jesus is saying here.*

Mar 2:10 "But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"--He *said to the paralytic,

Mar 2:11 "I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home."

Mar 2:12 And he got up and immediately picked up the pallet and went out in the sight of everyone, so that they were all amazed and were glorifying God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this."

- *This Man picked up his bed and walked. Immediately No Therapy. No need for muscle tone to be built up. No need to develop balance.*
- *Heb 1:3 He who made the universe and upholds it*
-
- *Who Jesus Was* "God - Able to forgive sins"
- *What the offended saw* "A Man who claims either to have God's ability or claims to be God"
- *How does this effect us* "If we desire forgiveness we must come to the one who has authority to forgive sin. That is Jesus alone."

Mar 2:13 **2) The Offense of Who He Loves** vs 13-17 (We are not the judge)

And He went out again by the seashore; and all the people were coming to Him, and He was teaching them.

Mar 2:14 As He passed by, He saw Levi the {son} of Alphaeus sitting in the tax booth, and He *said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him.

- *Levi was an sub contractor for Rome, a tax gatherer. There was a quota that he had to gather. There was a tax on grains, cattle and all sorts of things. A Roman guard stood by as he would gather taxes. The tax gatherers income was made by Rome's acceptance of the gatherers to gather more than the quota and the gatherer could keep the rest. You can imagine the corruption. These people were considered extortionists and traitors.*
- *Matthew refers this guy as a certain man. Levi had his name changed to Matthew (gift of God)*
- *Jesus was walking by one day and sees a man. Not a traitor, not some on to hate but a man. Jesus extended to him an invitation with two words, "Follow Me."*
- *Following Him meant leaving a very profitable business.*

Mar 2:15 And it *happened that He was reclining {at the table} in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following Him.

- *What a beautiful picture of grace. Jesus is completely at home with these people. He is not here being affected by them but He is being effective to them. They were following Him.*
- *When was the last time you had dinner with a nonbeliever. You asked them out. You became their friend. You affect them to the Kingdom of God. We ask people in the church to lunch or dinner all the time. What about a business associate or a classmate or an acquaintance that is an unbeliever.*
- *It is ok if you have dinner with an unbeliever.*

- Mar 2:16 When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He was eating with the **sinners** and tax collectors, they said to His disciples, "Why is He eating and drinking with tax collectors and **sinners**?"
- *Again the scribes are offended. They are offended that Jesus was associating with sinners. The unclean people. To eat w/ someone is to share their food and become one with them.*
 - *There are people in your life who are unclean to you. Who are the unclean people? This may be taboo to mention, but you have them. It might be a racial thing, (God Forbid) or it may be towards homosexuals, or maybe towards a criminal, or even someone who has hurt you.*
 - *Doesn't just erk you when Jesus loves, forgives and blesses those unclean people in your life.*
- Mar 2:17 And hearing {this,} Jesus *said to them, "{It is} not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.(TO REPENTENCE)"
- *"To Repentance" Cross references*
 - *Do you feel that you are so unclean, your sin is so great that there is no hope for you. Well, there is salvation for you. A savior who associates with the worst of sinners.*
 - *Who Jesus Was "God - Able to love w/o prejudice or discrimination"*
 - *What the offended saw "A Man who was unclean because of association"*
 - *How does this effect us "1st on a personal level, God loves us no matter where we are and no matter what our sin may be. 2nd as an example for us to love others as Christ loved us."*
- Mar 2:18 **2) The Offense of What He Does** vs 18-28 (We are not right) Prov 20:6
John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and they *came and *said to Him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?"
- Mar 2:19 And Jesus said to them, "While the bridegroom is with them, the attendants of the bridegroom cannot fast, can they? So long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.
- *Jesus was asked about fasting. Others fasted but Jesus and His disciples did not. Jesus explained that there are certain times for fasting and certain times for celebration. This was a time for celebration.*
 - *Isn't it interesting that God instituted 7 feasts, but man will take the Law which gives instructions for feasting and then require man to fast.*
- Mar 2:20 "But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day.
- *Then this was a time for fasting.*
 - *Fasting is a time from where we separate ourselves from our routine for the sake of seeking God. It is usually centered around food.*
- Mar 2:21 "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; otherwise the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results.
- Mar 2:22 "No one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost and the skins {as well;} but {one puts} new wine into fresh wineskins."
- *Jesus take this opportunity to take the conversation concerning fasting and take it to a different place.*
 - *He tells them there is a new system. You are practicing the old system. Jesus came not to patch up an old system. He has come to bring something completely new.*
 - *We hear this example given when a church isn't exciting or when we want the church to do something different with regards to our culture and reaching our culture with it's ever changing standards. But Jesus here is referring to the new being the covenant of the New Testament. Not fitting into the skin of the Old Testament. The New Covenant of Grace will burst the Old Covenant of the Law. The Law was given as a schoolmaster to show us that we need the Grace of the new.*
 - *Bottom line is that Jesus is simply illustrating that the New is coming or is at hand. That the old system of coming to God via Law has accomplished it's work. But now the new system of coming to God via Grace is here.*

Mar 2:23 And it happened that He was passing through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples began to make their way along while picking the heads {of grain.}

Mar 2:24 The Pharisees were saying to Him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?"

- *The disciples walking thru a grain field on the Sabbath and they let grain slide thru their hands and some grain head come off into their hands then rubbing them together to remove the chaff and eating.*
- *The Pharisees see this and are offended that the Law has been violated. This is real life illustrating what Jesus has just told them about the old wineskins bursting.*
- *The law commanded a rest from work. To rejuvenate a man's body and so he can take advantage of an undistracted time to restfully be in God's presence, meditating on His goodness. From this Law, the rabbis had written the traditions, the Talmud, Mishna. These are 29 volumes of interpretations of what the Law means in practical living. The focus concerning Sabbath is what you can or mostly cannot do on the Sabbath.*
- *The focus became obeying Law not Restfully being in God's Presence.*

Mar 2:25 And He *said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions became hungry;

Mar 2:26 how he entered the house of God in the time of Abiathar {the} high priest, and ate the consecrated bread, which is not lawful for {anyone} to eat except the priests, and he also gave it to those who were with him?"

- *Jesus focus was back to the need. They were hungry. Let them eat. God would want them to eat.*
- *Jesus used the argument of David their beloved King ate when unlawful.*

Mar 2:27 Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.

- *Genesis the 7th day God rested. This was the first full day of man and it was a day where man and God communed together.*
- *Jesus here corrects the wrong orientation in the thinking concerning Sabbath. Sabbath was for man. Sabbath served man not man serving Sabbath.*
- *A Little correction ...The church never observed Sabbath. Sabbath is very clear as to what Sabbath is. It is the 7th day and a day of rest. The first church, being mostly Jewish would observe Sabbath on Friday Evening. Would go to Synagogue. Yet would celebrate on the 1st day of the week the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. This in their practice was two different things. Paul didn't command the Gentile to observe Sabbath. What we do on Sunday is not Sabbath. It is a celebration of the resurrection, the New Life of our Lord Jesus.*

Mar 2:28 "So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath." .

- *Who Jesus Was* "God - The Law Giver + Enforcer "
- *What the offended saw* "A Man who broke the Law and redefined for His own purposes"
- *How does this effect us* "Jesus defines for us what is Acceptable in our devotion, Worship,
He is the Lord Even of the Sabbath

**"Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® ,
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973,
1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation
Used by permission." (www.Lockman.org)**