

# Defining Foundational Elements to Your Service

## Mark Chapter 3

### Mar 3:1 1) Defining Adversaries vs 1-6

He entered again into a synagogue; and a man was there whose hand was withered.

Mar 3:2 They were watching Him {to see} if He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him.

- *What a compliment. They knew He would come and touch the hurting and broken people.*
- *Church - Some people come to be touched, have their hurts and wounds rubbed and healed. Some people come to touch, pray, give encouragement.*

Mar 3:3 He \*said to the man with the withered hand, "Get up and come forward!"

Mar 3:4 And He \*said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to kill?" But they kept silent.

Mar 3:5 After looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, He \*said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ."

- *He looked around in anger. Notice Jesus got angry. We do not have a problem with anger, we have a problem with directing anger. It is ok to be angry at injustice, hatred, abuse ... We shouldn't be angry at disappointment, inconvenience, or difficulty.*
- *Because of hardness of heart - Evident because they kept silent. Don't we do that when first confronted with the truth? We argue our position then the truth comes and reveals our error. We keep silent. Our mouths are stopped (Romans 3:19 Law given to stop the mouth / pride). The stopping of the mouth puts us in a crossroads. Do we just stay the same with a stopped mouth or do we yield in our heart to the truth and let it have it's complete work in us.*
- *Stretch forth - "give it to me" 19 Bones, 35 muscles, 58 distinct movements. (Focht) The Master Engineer restored this fascinating instrument.*

Mar 3:6 The Pharisees went out and immediately {began} conspiring with the Herodians against Him, {as to} how they might destroy Him.

- *Healing a hand is wrong but Messiah killing is ok on the Sabbath*
- *"The Enemy of My Enemy is My Friend" The Pharisees were the orthodox religious leaders of the Jews. The Herodians were the political power of the day. The Herodians were of Herod the governor appointed and empowered by the Roman government. His role was to keep the populace under the Roman control and to gather taxes for the Roman Government. Taxes were paid by a silver coin that was imprinted with Caesars image on it. The coinage that the Jews used was a more common copper coinage. The silver was a direct insult to the Jews as to who was their lord. These two groups were most often at odds with each other ...except when it came to Jesus.*

### Mar 3:7 2) Defining Apostles vs 7-19

Jesus withdrew to the sea with His disciples; and a great multitude from Galilee followed; and {also} from Judea,

- *Jesus withdrew - interesting choice of words. He could have engaged in this battle with the Pharisees. It would have been a cool fight. Jesus would have won. We know Jesus came and only did what the Father wanted Him to do. He withdrew. He picked His battles. This one He withdrew. We need to be lead of the Holy Spirit and at time we need to withdraw. It's not the time, or place or our place to fight.*
- *Great Multitude followed - Interesting all these people from all these places came to Him. What did He use? Mailing campaign, Telemarketing, Television, Radio? No! Simply word of mouth. You see it was real and it was genuine. No hype or gimmicks. People want the authentic. If it's real the people will see it and tell someone. Because the root of all man's desire is for the truth.*

Mar 3:8 and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and beyond the Jordan, and the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, a great number of people heard of all that He was doing and came to Him.

Mar 3:9 And He told His disciples that a boat should stand ready for Him because of the crowd, so that they would not crowd Him;

- *We here see the preparation for ministry. There was fore thought not just simply "winging it"*
- Mar 3:10 for He had healed many, with the result that all those who had afflictions pressed around Him in order to touch Him.
- *Jesus has the disciples get a boat ready so he can create a separation between himself and the crowd.*
  - *Pressed Him - the crowds were large and so insistent to be healed they crowded Jesus and movement became difficult and with people grabbing in desperation it was even dangerous.*
  - *Mark 1:37-38 We saw that Jesus wasn't a crowd seeker. He was a Gospel preacher.*
- Mar 3:11 Whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they would fall down before Him and shout, "You are the Son of God!"
- Mar 3:12 And He earnestly warned them not to tell who He was.
- Mar 3:13 And He \*went up on the mountain and \*summoned those whom He Himself wanted, and they came to Him.
- *Today Jesus does the same thing. Jesus called whom He Himself wanted. He summons.*
  - *This verse is a beautiful picture of our perspective of the work of Jesus Christ. Jesus went up on the mountain. This mountain is the highest point in history of man. The place where God took on flesh and in that flesh bore the sin of mankind. That high place is Golgotha. Jesus went up on that mountain. Jesus fulfilled the allusion of Abraham and Isaac where a son is sacrificed and it is said, "God will provide."*
  - *Jesus summons those whom He Himself wanted. He is not coursed, forced or obligated. He Himself wants. Does this mean you? Or is this a special group excluding me?*
    - *John 1:29 "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."*
    - *2 Tim 2:3-6 "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; Who will have ALL MEN SAVED and come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and man, the man Jesus Christ; Who gave himself a ransom for ALL..."*
  - *They Came! Will you come today? He is calling. The only thing that remains is your response.*
- Mar 3:14 And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He {could} send them out to preach,
- *He appointed (ordained KJV) appointed not achieved*
  - *The job 1<sup>st</sup> to be with Him 2<sup>nd</sup> to be sent 3<sup>rd</sup> to preach 4<sup>th</sup> to have authority to cast out demons*
  - *Luke 6:12 shows us that this decision was made after Jesus prayed all night.*
- Mar 3:15 and to have authority to cast out the demons.
- Mar 3:16 And He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom He gave the name Peter),
- *Matthew, Mark and Luke lists the apostles. All three begin with Simon and end with Judas*
  - *Simon. Would you have picked Peter. Impulsive. Denying that he is like the others who would deny Jesus. Who separates himself from the gentiles and Paul has to correct. Who after being showed the sheet of unclean animals and told to kill and eat says, "No Lord" 3x.*
  - *But Jesus called him "The Rock" It would be 50 years before Peter would write 1Peter 2 "Which in time past [were] not a people, but [are] now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.... Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God,"*
- Mar 3:17 and James, the {son} of Zebedee, and John the brother of James (to them He gave the name Boanerges, which means, "Sons of Thunder");
- *James and John called the "Sons of Thunder" Luke 9 when Jesus wasn't received in the village of the Samaritans, James and John said "Let's Nuke Em." Jesus said "Guys you do not know what manner spirit you are of."*
  - *James would become 1<sup>st</sup> martyr of the church John would live a long life. His nickname was Thunder Voice. Many years later he would speak to the Church at Patmos. All came to hear him and he was so feable that he could only share a short sermon "Children, Love one another!"*
  - *Jesus didn't pick these guys for who they were but what they would become. (Focht)"*

Mar 3:18 and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot;

- Andrew - Brings Peter
- Philip - Always brings people to Jesus
- Bartholomew - (Nathaniel) In whom is no guile
- Matthew - The tax collector
- Thomas - The doubter
- James
- Thaddaeus
- Simon - (Cannanite) Zealot were the daggersmen who would sneak up behind the Roman Soldiers and stab them.

Mar 3:19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him.

- Judas - Betrayer, Treasurer, a devil

Mar 3:20 **3) Defining Associations** vs 20-35

And He \*came home, and the crowd \*gathered again, to such an extent that they could not even eat a meal.

- We see here that ministry can be inconvenient. "they could not even eat a meal" Yet Jesus models for us His willingness to encounter people with grace.

Mar 3:21 When His own people heard {of} {this,} they went out to take custody of Him; for they were saying, "He has lost His senses."

- Family - at least 4 brothers and sisters - Joses, Jude James Simon  
- Mark 6:3 "Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us?"
- They think Jesus their older brother is nuts.

Mar 3:22 The scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons."

- What to the enemies of Christ do? They cannot deny the power so they attack Him by saying He is crazy or possessed.
- His family thinks poorly of Him. The spiritual leaders of His nation think poorly of Him.

Mar 3:23 And He called them to Himself and began speaking to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?"

- A parable is a story, real or not that when spiritually discerned can be applied to our lives to bring glory to Jesus.
- Very Important note: The words of Jesus are here in between two thoughts (verses 23a and verse 30) This is important because it helps us understand and define the concepts that have caused fear and bad teaching in the church.
- Be clear! Jesus called the disciples to Himself, was speaking only to them because the scribes said publicly that Jesus had an unclean spirit.

Mar 3:24 "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

Mar 3:25 "If a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.

Mar 3:26 "If Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but he is finished!

Mar 3:27 "But no one can enter the strong man's house and plunder his property unless he first binds the strong man, and then he will plunder his house.

- Kingdoms, Homes and even Satan cannot stand if they are divided. We must be a people that are not divided. We must be clear as to who the adversary is and who our associates are.
- This is ironic. Jesus is the plunderer and Satan is the strong man. This is a fulfillment of Isaiah 49:24-26 illuminates this parable (emphasis added):  
Can the prey be taken from the mighty man,

Or the captives of a tyrant be rescued?"  
 Surely, thus says the LORD,  
 "Even the captives of the mighty man will be taken away,  
 And the prey of the tyrant will be rescued;  
 For I will contend with the one who contends with you,  
 And I will save your sons.  
 "I will feed your oppressors with their own flesh,  
 And they will become drunk with their own blood as with sweet wine;  
 And all flesh will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior  
 And your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

- This principal is known in the enemies' realm and the enemy will try to divide. Will try to have you attack you associates and embrace your enemies. You will not stand

Mar 3:28 "Truly I say to you, all sins shall be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they utter;

Mar 3:29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"--

- THE UNPARDONABLE SIN!!! Scary!! No it isn't - Let's break this down.
- This topic is spoken of in 3 verses (Matthew 12:22-32, Mark 3:20-30 and Luke 12:8-12)
- There are 3 views for interpreting the Blaspheme of the Holy Spirit.
  - LITERAL - Strict adherence to the words that a spoken word "against the Holy Spirit is never forgiven. Matthew continues by quoting Jesus "For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned." The greatest most distressing aspect of this view is the ultimate conclusion is that any single slip of the tongue against the Holy Spirit is unforgivable.
  - CONTEXTUAL - The context of this sin is what defines this sin. The context is the scribes calling the Holy Spirit Beelzebul. Attributing the works of the Holy Spirit to Satan. This view is strengthened because of the next verse in Mark "Because they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit." "
  - DOCTRINAL - Interpretation is achieved by incorporating, interpreting and properly applying related scriptures. Additional cited passages are 1 John 5:16 (not praying for these who have committed a sin that leads to death.) and Hebrews 6:4-8 (those who tasted and known but fall away it is impossible to renew them again to repentance.) This view concludes that the Blaspheme of the Holy Spirit is one of unrepented sin. That is the mission of the Holy Spirit is to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment, and rejection of is mission leaved the individual in a state of unforgiveness.

All three are important for understanding any scripture. You must define words, Understand clearly the context of the passage and must let the Word interpret the Word using other passages to clarify and contribute to the interpretation.

- Define blaspheme - (blasphemia) (Blapto = to injure PHEME = speech) slander, detraction, speech injurious, to the divine Majesty's good name
- Verse 28 (usually overlooked) says blasphemies will be forgiven. But a particular blaspheme will not. Verse 29 says it is an eternal sin. It has an eternal consequence.
- The blaspheme of the Holy Spirit here in this passage is speaking of, calling what Jesus does or Who Jesus is, not of God but is of the devil.
- The Account of Manasseh, King of Judah is one to remember at this point. 2 Chronicles 33 tells of this most wicked king and how he repented.

Mar 3:30 because they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."

Mar 3:31 Then His mother and His brothers \*arrived, and standing outside they sent { word } to Him and called Him.

- Family was not with Him. They were outside. They didn't even enter to see Him but sent word for Him to stop and come home with them.

- Mar 3:32 A crowd was sitting around Him, and they \*said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are outside looking for You."
- Mar 3:33 Answering them, He \*said, "Who are My mother and My brothers?"
- *A word of disrespect. Towards those who are the obvious relatives yet it was deserving because they were not walking in agreement as to the importance and urgency of His ministry.*
- Mar 3:34 Looking about at those who were sitting around Him, He \*said, "Behold My mother and My brothers!"
- Mar 3:35 "For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother."
- *A word of respect. Towards those gathered before Him and seeking God will.*
  - *A beautiful picture of relationship we have in the Church. Isn't interesting that we seem to be closer to our eternal spiritual family than our temporal physical family , especially when those of our family that are not yet believers?*

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