

Mark 8:32, "He spoke this word openly. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter saying, 'Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.'"

- This is the worst thing Peter ever said! Jesus called Peter, _____! Satan and demons can work through unyielded believers.

JESUS & THE CROSS – 8:34-38

"So much for the so-called 'prosperity' gospel! The 'name it, claim it' religion is far removed from true Christianity. If the world offered Him, the Lord of Glory, a cattle shed in which to be born and a cross on which to die, why should we expect that it would offer us anything else?"

-John Phillips *Exploring the Gospel of Mark* (Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2004), 185.

- "take up his cross" – the cross was a symbol for _____.
- "the whole world" – and its wealth cannot compare to value and eternity of the _____.
- "ashamed of Me and My words" – Scripture indicates true believers will not be ashamed of Jesus Christ!

Romans 9:33, "As it were written: 'Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense, and whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.'"

Romans 10:11, "For the Scripture says, 'Whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.'"

Philippians 1:20, "According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or death."



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Pastor Jerry Johnston's sermonar
Wednesday, October 28th, 2009
"The Leaven of Herod & the Pharisees: Jesus Message of the Cross"
 Message #13 in the series, "Your Miracle in the Mirror of Mark"

Bible Text: Mark 8:1-38, pp. 1657-1659 in the *Nelson Study Bible*

THE LOCATION: Mark 7:31, "Again, departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, He came through the midst of the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee."

- Decapolis translated is "10 cities," a district containing ten cities, mostly east of the Jordan, in the area near the Sea of Galilee.

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| Scythopolis | Gerasa |
| Dion | Hippos |
| Gadara | Canatha |
| Pella | Raphana |
| Philadelphia | Damascus |



"Mark is careful to tell us this took place in the area called the Decapolis, the Ten Greek Cities on the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee. And he points out that Jesus went into this region in a rather strange way. Instead of coming directly back into Galilee, He left Tyre and Sidon and went by a northern route through what is now the country of Syria and continued down the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee into the southern part of that region. It would be like starting out for Los Angeles from San Francisco and going by way of Reno and Las Vegas."

-Ray C. Stedman *Expository Studies in Mark 1-8* (Waco, TX: Word Books, 1976), 183.

JESUS FEEDS THE 4,000 – 8:1-10

- The feedings of the _____ and 5,000 are two different miracles of Christ: (cf. 1 day vs. 3 days; "go and see" regarding food – "seven" loaves; sit on "green grass" vs. "on the ground"; 12 baskets vs. 7 baskets).

Mark 8:1, "In those days, the multitude being very great and having nothing to eat, Jesus

called His disciples to Him and said to them, 2) 'I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. 3) And if I send them away hungry to their own houses, they will faint on the way; for some of them have come from afar.'"

- Notice the sequence: they ate spiritually, (2) _____ and then physically, second.
- Notice the (3) _____ of the apostles. Why do we forget the provision of the Lord?
- Notice how God can make "little things" (4) _____ when they are given to Him!

Mark 8:4, "Then His disciples answered Him, 'How can one satisfy these people with bread here in the wilderness?' 5) He asked them, 'How many loaves do you have?' And they said, 'Seven.' 6) So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And He took the seven loaves and gave thanks, broke them [Greek "kept on breaking them"] and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and they set them before the multitude. 7) They also had a few small fish; and having blessed them, He set them also before them. 8) So they ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets of leftover fragments. 9) Now those who had eaten were about four thousand. And He sent them away, 10) immediately got into the boat with His disciples, and came to the region of Dalmanutha."

- Dalmanutha – lost city on the Sea of Galilee.

LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES & HEROD – 8-11-21

Mark 8:11, "Then the Pharisees came out and began to dispute with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven, testing Him. 12) But He sighed deeply in His spirit, and said, 'Why does this generation seek a sign? Assuredly, I say to you, no sign shall be given to this generation.' 13) And He left them, and getting into the boat again, departed to the other side. 14) Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, and they did not have more than one loaf with them in the boat. 15) Then He charged them, saying, 'Take heed of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.'

- "leaven" in Scripture represents (5) _____ or evil teaching.

Matthew 13:33, "Another parable He spoke to them: 'The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened.'"

"The meal symbolizes the gospel, and the leaven, which represents wrong teaching, was hidden in it. It is the process of making something taste good to the natural (unsaved) man. Actually, what is liberalism? It all came into existence by the pulpit trying to please unsaved church members. And today we have a lot of men trying to please the congregation, even when they are unsaved. And that, may I say, is putting leaven in - that is, mixing wrong teaching with the truth of the gospel. The only kind of bread they will eat is that which has leaven because leaven makes bread taste good."

-J. Vernon McGee, *Mark* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991), 99

- We are warned against false teaching – sermons that make us feel good in our sin.

Mark 8:16, "And they reasoned among themselves, saying, 'It is because we have no bread.' 17) But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, 'Why do you reason because you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive nor understand? Is your heart still hardened? 18) Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? 19) When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments did you take up? They said, 'Twelve.' 20) 'Also, when I broke the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of fragments did you take up?' And they said, 'Seven.' 21) So He said to them, 'How is it you do not understand?'"

THE BLIND MAN AT BETHSAIDA – 8:22-26

- The natural man cannot understand spiritual truth.

I Corinthians 2:14, "But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

- We do not always understand or (6) _____ the plan of God in our life.

I Corinthians 13:12, "For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known."

>>> Socrates said he was the wisest of all Athenians. He explained: "Well there are a great many Athenians who think they know, and I know I do not know. And since I know that I do not know, I am the wisest of the Athenians."

- The miracle occurred at (7) _____ – a city cursed by Jesus Christ!

Matthew 11:21, "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes."

PETER & SATAN – 8:27-33

Mark 8:29, "He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered and said to Him, 'You are the Christ.'"

- The best thing Peter ever said! "Christ" is a (8) _____ – in Hebrew it was "Messiah," which means the "Anointed One." Jesus came to fulfill Scripture: Mic. 5:2; Isa. 7:14; Ps. 2:2; 45:6-7; and Mal. 3:1).