

Good News From Mark

Deciding about Jesus

Mark 3:20-30

Intro

Have people ever come to the wrong conclusions about you?

Overview

1. People decide about Jesus
2. Jesus responds

1. People Decide (3:20-22)

A) His family – “He is out of his mind.”

- He is teaching things never heard before
- He is hanging out with tax collectors & “sinners”
- He is so deluged by crowds of people that he isn’t getting enough sleep or nourishment

“They went to take charge of him.”

B) teachers of the law from Jerusalem

- i) “He has an evil spirit.”
- ii) “He casts out demons by the prince of demons.”

2. Jesus Responds (3:23-30)

A) Your answer is absurd

i) that would mean that Satan is fighting against himself (vv. 23-26)

ii) a strong man’s house [Satan’s] is being robbed only because the strong man has been tied up first (v. 27)

B) Your answer is extremely sinful (vv. 28-30)

All sins and blasphemies will be forgiven. But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin.

Jesus performed his works in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The goal of all this was to lead people to believe in Christ as Lord and Saviour.

To wilfully attribute something that was obviously from God to Satan was an intentional act of unbelief against the only thing that brings forgiveness and reconciliation with God.

This passage helps explain Hebrews 6:4-6 and 10:26-31 – describing people who travel far down the path of investigating the truth and then wilfully turn away from the only thing that can save them.

“It denotes the conscious and wicked rejection of the saving power and grace of God towards man. Only the man who sets himself against forgiveness is excluded from it” (O. E. Evans)

Summary & Application

1. No one can remain neutral about Jesus Christ.

What you decide about him determines your eternal destiny.

John 3:36 (NIV)

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him.”

C.S. Lewis – liar, lunatic, Lord

2. If you are concerned that you have committed the unforgiveable sin, you haven’t.

As believers we need to guard against...

- grieving the Spirit (Ephesians 4:30)
- quenching the Spirit (1 Thess. 5:19)

3. The evidence that the world finds difficult to ignore are real people carrying the love of Christ to those in need.