

WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



Who Do You Say He Is?
Mark 3:22–30

"Who do you say that I am?" This is the question that Jesus asked his disciple, Peter? And this is the question people asked throughout Jesus' earthly life. From his teachings to his healings and to the miracles he performed, people wrestled with the identity of Jesus. The Gospel of Mark was written to answer just this question—Who do you say Jesus is? And this question is as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago when Jesus asked it of Peter? In our journey through the Gospel of Mark we will study the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus and ask ourselves, "Who do you say he is?"

Do not confuse Jesus' victorious Kingdom for that of Satan's losing kingdom.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

Mark 3:22–30

22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.” **23** And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? **24** If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. **25** And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. **26** And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. **27** But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

28 “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, **29** but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” — **30** for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

- Both the religious leaders and Jesus clearly believed in Satan. How have you understood Satan?
- What do Jesus' comments tell us about the kingdom of Satan versus the Kingdom of God?
- We first learn of Satan in the Garden. Read Genesis 3:1–7 and discuss what this passage teaches us about Satan?
- One truth that runs from Genesis to Revelation is that Satan is not equal in power to the Lord. How should it make you feel to know that Satan is not equal in power with God?
- One thing we learn from Mark 3:22–30 is that while Satan possesses people, Jesus frees people. How does Jesus free people from Satan's possession? Consider Colossians 2:13–15 as an example.
- What does Jesus' dominion over Satan tell us (once again) about his identity? Why is this important not only for Mark but for the whole story of Scripture?
- What Scripture teaches us is that the Kingdom of God is “already-not yet,” meaning Jesus' has inaugurated it, but he has yet to consummate it. What sort of hope should this “already-not yet” Kingdom reality make us feel about Satan, evil, and sin?
- The reality, though, is we're still waiting. How do we patiently and hopefully wait?

- The religious leaders were guilty of “blaspheming the Holy Spirit” because they were confusing good with evil; they were wrong about Jesus and his Kingdom. How can we practically protect ourselves from confusing good and evil?