

The Gospel of Mark

Session 20 – June 19th – Chapter 8

Déjà vu – beginning in 6:31 we see Jesus feed 1000s of people; followed by a confrontation with the Pharisees (relating to the issue of clean and unclean); about which the disciples don't fully understand; and, finally a double healing (the woman's daughter in Tyre and the deaf man in the area of the Decapolis). In chapter 8, Mark repeats the pattern.

vv. 1-10 Jesus Feeds the 4000

v. 1 "In those days" (1:9)

v. 2 no sheep, but more deep compassion

v. 5 Seven loaves & seven baskets (v.8). Significance?

v. 6 (see also 6:41). Together, these two events point forward to what? (14:22-23)

vv. 11-13 Jesus Refuses to Give a Sign

v. 11 A sign is something that provides _____.

What do the Pharisees come to do? Where did we last see this? (1:13)

v. 12 Who is involved with this groaning? How does that relate to the Pharisees?

Strong words from Jesus about giving no sign!

What is Mark emphasizing here about seeing and believing?

What does that say to us today?

vv. 14-21 Dough & Dull Disciples

Mark emphasizes key points (through word order): *Hardened, 5 loaves, 7 loaves*

"Fermented dough" = Rabbis "bad impulses of a man", see also 1 Cor. 5:6-7

Then, why a literal understanding? (See parallel in Mt. 16:12).

The _____ are blind, deaf, & hardened, just like old _____.

Because of this, _____ must act. (Isa. 59:16)

The Pharisees' "fermented dough"

1) The teachings, traditions, & _____ of Old Covenant.

2) The reign & rule of God is present in _____ for _____.

vv. 22-26 Double Healing: Gaining Sight in Stages

Unique to Mark. The end of Part III. One of two healings that serve as bookends.

Fulfillment of Isaiah 4-5.

A reminder that the fallen creation _____ the reign and rule of God.

Again, the one healed pulled out to go with Jesus. The old relations are _____.

An allegorical reading on top of a literal understanding.

Mark has introduced John, Jesus, & the “Kingdom” of God (1:1-1:8)

Jesus teaches & shows that the reign & rule of God has arrived with Him. (1:9-8:26)

Jesus will turn His attention toward His disciples and toward the cross.