

JESUS: LUNATIC, LIAR, OR LORD

--MARK 3:20-35--

INTRODUCTION:

The New Testament Gospels clearly demonstrate that Jesus was neither a lunatic nor a liar. Lunatics cannot heal sick people or raise the dead. Frauds cannot perform undeniable miracles, nor would someone empowered by demons use that power to cast out other demons. The Gospels are clear and leave only one alternative. The Lord Jesus is the messianic King and the Son of the Living God. Despite the overwhelming evidence we have that proves the Deity of Jesus Christ there were many who refused to believe in Him. Some thought He was demented, and others accused Him of being a liar and demon possessed. We find both of these wrong responses in our passage for this morning, but we also find those who rightly believe that Jesus is who He claims to be, and they rightly understood that He is both Lord and God.

I. LUNATIC (Mark 3:20-22)

- a. I cannot even imagine anyone thinking that Jesus had _____ His mind.
- b. After Jesus had _____ and appointed His twelve disciples, Mark writes that He came home.
- c. When this news reached Jesus' _____ in Nazareth, they were shocked by what they heard and concerned for Jesus.
- d. Jesus' brothers did not yet _____ in Him. (Mark 6:3)
- e. The phrase "lost His senses" is translated from a single term in Greek that means "to lose one's mind, to be beside oneself, or to be _____."

II. LIAR (Mark 3:22-30)

- a. Mark tells us that a delegation of Israel's religious _____ had traveled from Jerusalem to Capernaum in search of Jesus.
- b. Matthew's parallel passage to Mark tells us the response of the _____ was specifically related to a demon possessed man that was both mute and blind. (Matthew 12:22-23)

- c. The religious leaders denied that Jesus was the "Son of _____" and said that He was the servant of Beelzebul.
- d. Jesus called the crowd to Himself and He began to speak to them in _____.
- e. The truth about Jesus' authority over demons was not that Satan empowered Him, but rather that He had _____ over Satan.
- f. For the scribes to attribute the power of Jesus to Satan rather than the _____ was the highest form of blasphemy and placed them in eternal jeopardy.
- g. Much confusion and debate has gone on through the years as to what Jesus means by the _____ against the Holy Spirit.
- h. The scribes, just like the common people, had witnessed the overwhelming evidence of the Spirit's _____ in Jesus' ministry, yet the scribes remained utterly unwilling to accept Jesus as the Son of _____.

III. LORD (Mark 3:31-35)

- a. Jesus' mother and brothers finally _____ in Capernaum.
- b. Finding _____ was not difficult, look for the huge crowd. Getting to Him was another story.
- c. But Jesus uses this opportunity to teach a very important spiritual _____ to His followers who were seated around Him. (John 3:1-8; John 6:40)
- d. Mark had already noted that some of the family members of Jesus thought He was a _____. (John 8:31)

CONCLUSION:

The eternal destiny of every sinner is determined by what they do with Jesus Christ. Those who make the statement that He was a good teacher, but He is not God, must regard Jesus either as a lunatic or a liar and will spend their eternity apart from God in the place prepared for the devil and his angels. But those who repent and turn in faith to Jesus Christ and embrace Him as Lord and Savior are promised eternal life in heaven. There we will forever worship our risen Lord and King, Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Son of the living God.