

#1 Encountering Jesus through Suffering

Mark 7:31-37 (3/1/09 AM)

The Gospel of Mark is the shortest of the four Gospels. There are only four passages that are peculiar to Mark, one of which we are considering this morning.

1. The Time and the Place of the Miracle (31)

The Third Year of Ministry

- **The year of** _____

Chapter 6 records Christ's second visit and rejection in Nazareth. This marks the beginning of His third and final year of ministry.

Jesus Is Moving Purposefully to the _____

- **The region of the** _____

Matthew 4:25 records that many people from this region followed Jesus. He also records that Jesus healed many people at this time, Matthew 15:29-30, "and He healed them."

Jesus Will Never Turn Away Those Who Come To Him by

2. The Details of the Miracle (32-35)

The Significance Is Revealed In the Details

- **An evidence of Jesus'** _____ (32)

The word translated "impediment of speech" is found only here in the New Testament. It is used only once in the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament, Isaiah 35:6. This is a Messianic passage describing Israel in the Kingdom Age.

When John the Baptist was imprisoned he sent two of his disciples to Jesus with this question, Matthew 11:3-6, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" Jesus answered by listing the miracles which He did.

Miracles were used by Jesus to teach and to reveal. They were signs to those who would see and believe. Miracles were encouragements to faith. From our perspective we see miracles as supernatural events breaking into the natural world. Jesus saw miracles as

restoring what God had intended for mankind in the original creation.

**Miracles Are a _____ into What
the World Was Meant To Be and One Day Will Be**

- **An example of Jesus'** _____ (33)

Notice how Jesus related this man's healing to his circumstances.

Jesus used sign language and symbolic acts that uniquely met his needs. The healing methods of Jesus are varied in the Gospels.

Every Person Must Come To Jesus

- **An expression of Jesus'** _____ (34)

Jesus is not indifferent to your suffering. He was on His way to Jerusalem to enter into our suffering, Hebrews 4:15-16.

People Often Encounter Jesus In the Midst of their

- **An exhibit of Jesus'** _____ (34-35)

The man's healing was immediate and complete. Jesus looking

up to heaven symbolized His oneness with the Father. This healing was the result of divine power which resides in Jesus as He is God. Jesus' ministry combined healing and preaching, Luke 9:6. The people who encountered Jesus did not just encounter a healer but their Savior.

**Physical Deliverance Is Symbolic of the Greater
Need of _____ Deliverance**

3. The Results of the Miracle (36-37)

Note the Contrast

• **The command for _____**

Why did Jesus often tell people not to openly proclaim their healing? It often hindered His ability to preach the Gospel to

them. In Mark 1:40-45 Jesus healed a leper and gave him the same instructions. The man instead told everybody he met about his healing. The result was that "Jesus could no longer openly enter the city". Jesus was not interested in the vain applause of men.

The First and Foremost Encounter with Jesus Is

• **The result of the _____**

The general populace of the Decapolis was "astonished beyond measure." The crowd confessed "He has done all things well".

This event prefigures His rejection by His own and the gospel going to the Gentiles in the Church Age, John 1:11-13.

Have You Had a _____ Encounter with Jesus?