

114. Jews Accuse Jesus of Working with the Devil (Mark 3:20-35)

Prayer: Lord, You rule heaven and earth. Thank You for stealing us from the devil and bringing us into Your kingdom. You make Your kingdom for all believers to live together in perfect peace and unity. Please help us always follow Jesus Christ and live agreeing with each other. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Mark 3:20-21. Jesus entered a house. Again, a crowd of people came, so many that Jesus and His disciples couldn't eat. Jesus' family heard about that. His family said, "Jesus lost His mind!" So they went to get Jesus and bring Him home.

- Why was Jesus always so busy teaching and healing people?
- We normally work, take a break, then work some more. Jesus and His disciples were so busy, they couldn't stop to eat. What did Jesus' family think when that happened? What did they want to do?

Mark 3:22. The Jewish law teachers came from Jerusalem. They said, "Beelzebub (the devil) is in Jesus! Jesus can throw out demons, why? The demon ruler is inside Him."

- The Jewish law teachers also saw Jesus working hard. Did they like Jesus' hard work?
- Who did the teachers say was inside Jesus, giving Him His power?

Mark 3:23-26. Jesus called them and told these examples. "How can Satan force out Satan? If a kingdom is divided and opposed, that kingdom can't continue. If a house is divided and opposed, that house can't stand. If Satan divides and works against himself, he can't continue. That is his end."

- What did Jesus say about Satan? Can Satan fight against himself?
- What about the devil's "miracles?" Can he do fake miracles, or are all miracles from God? (read Mark 13:21-22)

Mark 3:27. Jesus said, “Truly, no one can enter a strong man’s house and steal everything unless he first ties up the strong man. Then he can steal from the house.”

- Jesus is giving an example that explains His work. Who is the strong man? What is the strong man’s house?
- Who breaks into the house and steals things? How does He tie up the strong man?

Mark 3:28-30. Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, all of peoples’ sins and speaking against God, God will forgive. But if someone curses the Holy Spirit, that person never gets forgiven. That sin is eternal.” Jesus said that because the law teachers said Jesus had an evil spirit.

- What is the difference between “speaking against God” and “cursing the Holy Spirit?”
- Why is cursing the Holy Spirit an eternal sin? Doesn’t God love us and forgive all our sins no matter what?
- Why did Jesus tell the law teachers about this sin against the Holy Spirit?

Mark 3:1-35. Then Jesus’ mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside and sent someone in to get Jesus. The crowd around Jesus told Him, “Your mother and brothers are outside looking for You.” Jesus asked, “Who are My mother and My brothers?” Jesus looked at the people sitting there. He said, “Here are My mother and My brothers! The person who does God’s will is My brother and sister and mother.”

- People who cursed the Holy Spirit are not in God’s family. Who is in God’s family? What did Jesus say?
- What is God’s will? Read John 6:39-40.