

LESSON 54

1. Instead of believing the Word of God, what did the Pharisees and the teachers of the law want to see?

-They wanted to see a miraculous sign.

2. Why were the Pharisees and the teachers of the law asking to see more miraculous signs?

-Because they did not believe that Jesus was God the Savior.

3. If we say that we will believe that God's Word is true only when we see a miraculous sign, then what are we saying?

-That God's Word is a lie.

4. What was the only sign that Jesus said He would give to the people?

-The sign of Jonah.

5. What was the sign of Jonah?

-Just like Jonah was in the stomach of the big fish for three days and three nights, so Jesus also would be in the stomach of the earth for three days and three nights.

-Just like God brought Jonah out of the stomach of the big fish after three days and three nights, so God also would bring Jesus out of the stomach of the earth after three days and three nights.

6. Why did Jesus say that the Jews were more wicked than the people of Nineveh?

-Because the people of Nineveh repented at the teaching of Jonah, and the Jews did not repent at the teaching of Jesus, God the Savior.

-Why did the Pharisees hate Jesus?

-Because Jesus told them that He was God the Savior.

-The Pharisees thought that Jesus was only a man.

-The Pharisees thought that no man should say that he was God.

-Why else did the Pharisees hate Jesus?

-Because Jesus told them that they were sinners, and that God would punish them if they did not repent.

-The Pharisees did not believe that they were born into sin.

-The Pharisees believed that they had never sinned in all of their lives.

-Why else did the Pharisees hate Jesus?

-Because many people followed Jesus, and the Pharisees were jealous of Jesus.

-The Pharisees thought that the people should listen to them, and not listen to Jesus.

-The Pharisees thought that the people should follow them, and not follow Jesus.

-Because the Pharisees hated Jesus, they were constantly watching Jesus to see if He would break one of God's commandments.

-If Jesus would break one of God's commandments, then what would the Pharisees do?

-They would condemn Jesus to death.

-Would Jesus break one of God's commandments?

-No.

-Why would Jesus never break one of God's commandments?

-Because Jesus is perfect.

-Because Jesus is God.

-Because Jesus is without sin.

-Because Jesus obeyed God the Father in everything.

-While Jesus obeyed God, He did not obey the Pharisees.

-Why did Jesus not obey the Pharisees?

-Because the Pharisees had changed the commandments of God.

-How did the Pharisees change the commandments of God?

-The Pharisees added their own laws to God's commandments.

-When the Pharisees added their own laws to God's commandments, they changed God's commandments to be a lie.

-One of the laws that the Pharisees added to God's commandments was that no one was permitted to heal another person on the Sabbath day.

-Why did the Pharisees add this law to God's commandments?

-Because they said that to heal someone was to work, and that God did not want them to work on the Sabbath.

-The law that the Pharisees added made God's commandment to be a lie.

-One Sabbath day, Jesus went into a synagogue.

Let's read Mark 3:1-2

1-Another time Jesus went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there.

2-The Pharisees were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath.

-When Jesus went into the synagogue, a man with a shriveled hand was there.

-Why were the Pharisees watching Jesus closely?

-Because the Pharisees wanted to see if Jesus would heal the man on the Sabbath.

-Would God be angry if Jesus would heal the man on the Sabbath?

-No.

-Why would God not be angry if Jesus would heal the man on the Sabbath?

-Because healing someone on the Sabbath is not work.

-Because God the Father wanted Jesus to heal the man.

-What did Jesus do?

Let's read Mark 3:3-5

3-Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone."

4-Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent.

5-Jesus looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored.

-Why was Jesus angry with the Pharisees?

-Because Jesus saw that their hearts were stubborn.

-How did Jesus know that their hearts were stubborn?

-Because Jesus can look into every heart of every person.

-Because Jesus knows every heart of every person.

-Jesus looked into the hearts of the Pharisees, and saw that they did not want to listen to what God was teaching them.

-It is very wrong not to listen that which God teaches us.

-Pharaoh did not want to listen to what God was teaching him, and God punished him with death.

-The Israelites in the desert did not want to listen to what God was teaching them, and God punished them with death.

-God will punish with death all those who do not listen to what God is teaching them.

-Did Jesus heal the man with the shriveled hand?

-Yes.

-Who alone was able to completely heal a shriveled hand?

-God.

-How did Jesus heal the man with the shriveled hand?

-Just by speaking.

-In the beginning, how did God create the earth?

-Just by speaking.

-Just as Jesus created the earth just by speaking, Jesus also healed the man with the shriveled hand just by speaking.

-After Jesus healed the man, what did the Pharisees do?

Let's read Mark 3:6

6-Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.

-The Pharisees went out of the synagogue, and began to plot how they might kill Jesus.

-With whom did the Pharisees plot to kill Jesus?

-The Herodians.

-Who were the Herodians?

-The Herodians were the people who followed King Herod.

-The Herodians also did not believe that Jesus was God the Savior.

-This King Herod was the son of the King Herod who had tried to kill Jesus when He was a little boy.

-When the people heard of Jesus' miracles, what did they do?

Let's read Mark 3:8

8-When they heard all Jesus was doing, many people came to him from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, and the regions across the Jordan and around Tyre and Sidon.

-Many people came to Jesus.

-They came to hear Jesus' teaching.

-They came to be healed of their sicknesses.

-They knew that Jesus was able to heal them.

-Only God is able to heal us.

-Because many people came to see Jesus, there soon became a crowd.

Let's read Mark 3:9-10

9-Because of the crowd, Jesus told his disciples to have a small boat ready for him, to keep the people from crowding him.

10-For he had healed many, so that those with diseases were pushing forward to touch him.

-Many people with diseases were coming to Jesus, and they were being healed just by touching Jesus.

-Because the crowd was pushing forward just to touch Him, Jesus told His disciples to prepare a boat if the people crowded Him into the water.

-There has never been anyone like Jesus.

-Jesus is greater than all.

-What did the demons say when they saw Jesus?

Let's read Mark 3:11

11-Whenever the evil spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."

-What did the demons call Jesus?

-They called Him the Son of God.

-Why did the demons call Jesus the Son of God?

-Because the demons knew that Jesus had come from God the Father.

-Even though the people did not know that Jesus had come from God the Father, the demons knew that He was God the Savior.

-How did the demons know that Jesus was God?

-Because the demons in the beginning were good angels who served Jesus in heaven before they became evil and followed Satan.

-All of the demons know that Jesus is God.

-The demons, however, do not want you to believe in Jesus.

-Why do the demons not want you to believe in Jesus?
-Because the demons do not want you to escape their power.

-If you believe in Jesus, then Jesus will deliver you from the power of the demons.

-What did Jesus command the demons?

Let's read Mark 3:12

12-But Jesus gave them strict orders not to tell who he was.

-Jesus commanded the demons not to tell anyone who He was.

-Why did Jesus not want the demons to tell who He was?

-Jesus wanted the people to believe in Him because of what He said, and not because of what the demons said.

-Just like Jesus wanted the people to believe in Him because of His Words, God wants all of us to believe in Jesus because of God's Word.

-After Jesus had finished healing the people, He went up on a mountainside.

Let's read Mark 3:13-19

13-Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.

14-He appointed twelve--designating them apostles--that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach

15-and to have authority to drive out demons.

16-These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter);

17-James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder);

18-Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot

19-and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

-From the people who followed Him, how many men did Jesus choose to be His special disciples?

-Twelve.

-What were these twelve men called?

-Apostles.

-The apostles that Jesus chose did not know how to read or write very well, nor did they have much money.

-Jesus chose eleven of the apostles because they believed in Him.

-One of the men whom Jesus chose was called Judas.

-Judas said that he believed in Jesus, but he was only saying it with his lips.

-In his heart, Judas did not believe in Jesus.

-The other eleven apostles did not know that Judas did not believe in Jesus, but Jesus knew.

-Jesus also knew that Judas would one day betray Him.

-We may be able to deceive people.

-We may be able to deceive people like Judas, and say that we believe in God.

-But we can never deceive God.

-God looks into our heart.

-God knows whether we believe in Jesus with our heart, or whether we are just saying it with our lips.