

Lesson 8 | January 24, 2021

Jesus' Ministry Begins



Study Text: Mark 1:1–39

Central Truth: Jesus began His ministry with miraculous signs.

Key Verse: Mark 1:17

Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men (KJV).

“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people” (NIV).

Learning Objectives

- To review the events of Jesus' earliest ministry, following His introduction by John the Baptist.
- To appreciate the authority and power Jesus displayed in His ministry of teaching, healing, and deliverance.
- To respond to Jesus' message by turning from sin and believing His Word.

Introducing the Lesson

Say: Today, we are beginning a study of the Gospel as recorded by Mark. While the text of the book itself does not identify the author, **it is generally understood that it was written by the man named Mark who began a missionary journey with Paul and Barnabas but did not complete it. Later, Paul and Barnabas parted ways because Barnabas wanted to bring Mark along again, and Paul did not agree (See Acts 15:36–40.) In 2 Timothy 4:11, however, Paul referred to Mark as a valued fellow worker.**

From Blue Letter Bible

With only ten verses in the New Testament making mention of John Mark, it is surprising that there is still enough information to create a sufficient biographical sketch of him. Besides being the author of the second Gospel, he was the cousin of Barnabas (Col 4:10) and the son of the Mary who provided a meeting place for early Christians (Acts 12:12). Some have even speculated that John Mark was the young man at the garden of Gethsemane during the betrayal of Jesus (Mark 14:51-52). [2] What is certain

is that John Mark accompanied Barnabas and Saul on the first missionary journey (Acts 12:25; 13:5), but departed early for Jerusalem (Acts 13:13). After the Jerusalem Council, Barnabas and Paul were planning on making their second journey. Barnabas wanted to take John Mark, but Paul opposed the idea because Mark had departed from them on the first Journey. Consequently, Barnabas took John Mark, and Paul took Silas and the two groups went their separate ways (Acts 15:36-41). After Barnabas gave his cousin a second chance, Paul was later able to call him a coworker (Philem 24; cf. Col 4:10) who was helpful to his ministry (2 Tim 4:11). It is also evident that Mark shared a special relationship with Peter. Not only does Peter call him his son (1 Pet 5:13), but they have both experienced failure and restoration.

Opening Activity—Authority

Ask: What authority do you have in your home, your job, or other setting? Who gave you that authority?

Say: A common theme in the Gospels is the authority of Jesus. We begin our lives under the authority of our parents, and later live under the authority of our teachers, our bosses, and the various levels of government over us. We also often hold some type of authority over others. But **earthly authority pales in comparison to the authority of Jesus—and the authority He gives to His disciples and to us.**

(Read Mark 16:15–18 aloud and share your highlights from the following text.)

We don't like to be under authority. When we reach the end of ourselves, God then uses us in doing His will.

Some people struggle with the concept of authority. It is human nature to want to do things our own way. But as the Book of Mark begins, we are reminded that, first and foremost, we live under the authority of Jesus Christ. He called us to repent and to believe His kingdom message, and demonstrated His authority to do so by performing miraculous works of healing and deliverance. We will examine Mark's fast-paced account of these miracles.

Part 1—John Prepares the Way

A Forerunner Is Sent

Mark 1:1–3

[Mar 1:1-3 KJV] 1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; 2 As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. 3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Say: Mark, likely the earliest of the Gospels, does not begin with Jesus' birth or His pre-existence (see John 1). Instead, Mark began with a simple statement that he was telling the "good news" (NIV) or "gospel" (KJV) of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Throughout the book, Mark presented evidence of Jesus' divinity by reporting His actions. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

As Mark began writing, he made his subject clear. He was recording more than history, although his account was based upon historical events. **Mark was recording the gospel—the good news—of salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of “Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God” (verse 1, NIV).**

In giving the Savior's title as Messiah, Mark described Christ's identity and ministry. **“Jesus,” a Greek form of the Hebrew name “Joshua,” was a common name for Jewish boys at the time. However, it was God's chosen name for His Son, given because of its meaning: “the Lord saves” (see Matthew 1:21). Just as Joshua led God's people in delivering them from Egyptian slavery by bringing them into the Promised Land, Jesus would deliver human beings from slavery to sin.**

“Christ” is the Greek form of the Hebrew word “Messiah.” God's people had been waiting for the appearance of their Messiah, and those who accepted Him would discover He was not only a human being; He was also divine, the Son of God.

About 700 years before Jesus' birth, the prophet Isaiah foresaw that God would send John the Baptist as a forerunner of Christ. The wording of Isaiah's prophecy was cited by Mark in verses 2–3: John would “prepare” and “make straight . . . a highway” (see Isaiah 40:3). This indicated that John would do more than acknowledge that Jesus was coming soon. He would also call his listeners to prepare their hearts to accept the Person and message that could change their lives for eternity. As a person approached Jesus by faith and in repentance, Jesus would deliver that person from sin to experience God's kingdom (see Mark 1:15; John 3:3).

Discuss

? Why is it important to know the truth about who Jesus is? What can hinder a person from knowing and accepting who He is?

? What responsibility do we have to call others to Jesus?

Pointing to Christ

Mark 1:4–8

[Mar 1:4-8 KJV] 4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. 5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 And

John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey; 7 And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. 8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

Say: John the Baptist had a singular focus in life. His calling was to point people to the Messiah. He was not interested in building a kingdom for himself. He was only interested in building the kingdom of God. **He knew his purpose, and he knew to say, “He [Jesus] must become greater; I must become less” (John 3:30, NIV).** (Share your highlights from the following text.)

As Isaiah had foretold, John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness (Mark 1:4). His message was simple; he urged his followers to turn from sin and to be baptized as a sign of their commitment. Verse 5 describes the widespread response to John’s God-given message, as people traveled from Jerusalem and throughout the Judean countryside to receive baptism by John in the Jordan River.

John was similar in appearance to the Old Testament prophet Elijah, who also wore a garment of hair and a leather belt (verse 6; see 2 Kings 1:8). Also, John, like Elijah, existed for a time on a primitive diet, confronted evil rulers, and reprimanded Israel for corrupt religion (see Matthew 14:3–4; Luke 3:7–9; also 1 Kings 17:6; 18:16–21).

John’s humble appearance was consistent with his humble testimony. Despite the conjecture of some that he was the Messiah, he declared himself unworthy even to untie the sandals of the “more powerful” or “mightier” one who would come (Mark 1:7; see John 1:19–20).

All four Gospel accounts—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—record John the Baptist’s declaration that Jesus would baptize believers with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:8; see Matthew 3:11; Luke 3:16; John 1:33). Jesus himself promised to send the Holy Spirit after His ascension to heaven, and He did just that on the Day of Pentecost (see Luke 24:49; Acts 2:1–4).

Resource Packet Item 1: Which Baptism?

Distribute the work sheet. You can either divide the class into small groups to do the activity, or you can have volunteers read the Scriptures and discuss the questions as a class.

Discuss

? In what ways did John prepare the way for Christ?

? What calling has God placed on your life, and how are you fulfilling it?

Part 2—Ministry Beginnings

Baptized and Tested

Mark 1:9–13

[Mar 1:9-13 KJV] 9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. 10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: 11 And there came a voice from heaven, [saying], Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 12 And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness. 13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

Say: Spiritually significant experiences are often followed by times of testing. Even Jesus was faced with temptations after His baptism, which was accompanied by the descent of the Holy Spirit and the voice of His Father confirming the Father’s love for His Son. Mark’s description of Jesus’ time of temptation is brief, but other Gospel writers describe His use of the Word of God to defeat Satan. **We, too, are often tempted, but we can face those temptations with God’s Word.** (Share your highlights from the following text.)

When Jesus was about thirty years old, He went from Nazareth (where He had spent most of His life up to this point) to the Jordan River. There He was baptized by John. This was accompanied by the supernatural sign of the Holy Spirit descending on Him like a dove (Mark 1:9–10). **Jesus later promised to pour out the Spirit on believers to empower them for ministry, just as He was anointed by the Spirit (see Matthew 3:11; Luke 4:18).**

In Mark 1:1, Mark recorded that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. At Jesus’ baptism, the Father confirmed His Son’s identity publicly by declaring from heaven, “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased” (verse 11, NIV). In this account, all three persons of the Godhead are mentioned: God the Son—Jesus—was baptized; God the Holy Spirit descended like a dove; and God the Father spoke from heaven.

Immediately following this experience of baptism, the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness, where He was tempted by Satan (verses 12–13; see also Matthew 4:1–11). **The New Testament teaches that Christians will undergo times of testing and trial**

as well. So it is valuable to recall that Jesus, our Savior and the great example for how to live, was not exempt from temptations, just like us (see 1 Peter 5:8–9). Jesus defeated each of Satan’s temptations by using the Word of God, which is the sword of the Spirit (see Ephesians 6:17). Following Christ’s example, Christians can face temptation with confidence (see Revelation 12:11).

[Mat 4:1-11 KJV] 1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. 3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. 4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. 5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, 6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in [their] hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. 8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. 10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. 11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Discuss

? What examples can you give, either from Scripture or your own experience, where times of spiritual victory were followed by testing?

? Jesus himself ministered in the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. How might this shape a believer’s commitment to Spirit-filled living?

Resource Packet Item 2: Similar Paths

Distribute the work sheet. Discuss how Jesus’ experiences before beginning His public ministry bear similarity to what we as His followers experience. Discuss the personal response question as a class..

Proclaiming and Calling

Mark 1:14–20

[Mar 1:14-20 KJV] 14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. 16 Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. 17 And Jesus said unto them, Come ye

after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men. 18 And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him. 19 And when he had gone a little further thence, he saw James the [son] of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets. 20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

Say: As John the Baptist passed off the scene, having completed the task he was called to do, Jesus began to increase, just as John had said He would do. John had prepared the way for the Messiah, and the time had come for Jesus to begin His ministry. God's timing is always perfect. Paul echoed this concept when he said, "But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son . . ." (Galatians 4:4, NIV). (Share your highlights from the following text.)

[Gal 4:4 KJV] 4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

Because of his stand against the sin of King Herod Antipas, who had divorced his wife and married his brother's wife, John was imprisoned and later beheaded (Mark 1:14; see Mark 6:17–29). As John's public ministry ended, Jesus' public ministry began. John had accomplished the task for which he had been called.

Jesus' announcement that "the time has come" referred to the time when God's plan of drawing people into His kingdom through Jesus Christ would be put into action (Mark 1:15, NIV). **The only proper response to the nearness of the Kingdom is repentance from sin and faith in Christ.**

Jesus would not be alone in His work of kingdom ministry. First He called Simon (Peter) and his brother Andrew from their work of fishing on the Sea of Galilee to follow Him (verse 16). Although the brothers had previously met Jesus, He now called them to full commitment, joining Him in the work of "fishing" for men and women (verse 17; see John 1:35–42). Their response was immediate, as they left their daily occupations and became disciples of Jesus (Mark 1:18).

[Jhn 1:35-42 KJV] 35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; 36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! 37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou? 39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour. 40 One of the two which heard John [speak], and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the

Christ. 42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

Jesus called another pair of brothers a short time later (verses 19–20). Some ten years after Jesus' death and resurrection, James would be put to death for his faith in Christ (see Acts 12:1–2). John would become part of Christ's "inner circle" of disciples, along with Peter and James, and later in life would write a Gospel, three epistles, and the Book of Revelation. In Scripture, he referred to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved" (John 13:23, NIV), perhaps signaling his joy at being loved by the Savior. It is possible that James and John came from a wealthier family than other fishermen, as Mark mentioned their father's "hired servants" (Mark 1:20, KJV).

The choices Jesus was making were not haphazard accidents. He had a plan for each of the disciples He chose. He would be training them to carry on the work of the Church after His crucifixion and resurrection.

Discuss

? John the Baptist challenged King Herod Antipas regarding his behavior. How should Christians confront sin in our world today?

? Jesus' earthly disciples walked away from their livelihood to follow Him. What is the most valuable thing you have left behind to follow Jesus?

Part 3—Manifesting Unequaled Authority By Word and By Action

Mark 1:21–28

[Mar 1:21-28 KJV] 21 And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught. 22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes. 23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, 24 Saying, Let [us] alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. 25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. 26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. 27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine [is] this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him. 28 And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

Say: Imagine that you're traveling along with Peter, Andrew, James, and John as they accompany Jesus. While they already believed in Him and were following Him, they had much to learn. The first stop that Mark relates is in Capernaum, which became a "home base" for much of Jesus' ministry in Galilee. Those who heard Him there were amazed at His authority. It is likely that even the disciples were astonished. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Jesus took His four newly chosen disciples to Capernaum, an important city on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee. There, He entered the synagogue to teach (Mark 1:21). Synagogues originated during the time of the Jewish exile as places of worship and teaching; in the first century they gave Jesus, and later Paul, an important location to share the message of the kingdom of God.

Those who heard Jesus speak were amazed (verse 22). It was evident that Jesus' authority came not as a result of merely quoting other teachers who had taught before Him, but directly from God. Jesus' authority was evident also to the forces of the demonic realm, causing one caught in their grip to cry out (verse 23).

They had seen Him before.

The evil spirit spoke both for itself and for others in asking, "Have you come to destroy us?" (verse 24, NIV). **This evil spirit recognized both Jesus' authority and the future judgment of all evil spirits (see Luke 8:31; Matthew 25:41). By calling Jesus "the Holy One of God" (Mark 1:24, NIV), the evil spirit admitted Jesus' divine identity and superior position.**

Jesus responded by commanding the spirit both to be silent and to depart (verse 25). Causing the man to shake violently, the spirit complied and exited with a shriek (verse 26).

The authority that those in the synagogue recognized earlier in Jesus' speaking had now been confirmed by His actions (verse 27). Jesus had the ability to command evil spirits—and force them to obey. This put a seal on the truth of His teaching. In part through this event, all of Galilee soon heard about Christ (verse 28).

Discuss

? If you had been one of those first four disciples, how do you think you would have felt and responded to what you saw and heard in the synagogue?

? The authority of Jesus was confirmed in a supernatural way. How can the Holy Spirit do the same in our witnessing today?

Healing and Praying

Mark 1:29–39

[Mar 1:29-39 KJV] 29 And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her. 31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them. 32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils. 33 And all the city was gathered together at the door. 34 And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him. 35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed. 36 And Simon and they that were with him followed after him. 37 And when they had found him, they said unto him, All [men] seek for thee. 38 And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth. 39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

Say: The next stop was at the home of Peter (Simon) and Andrew, where Peter's mother-in-law was sick with a fever. Perhaps the scene at the synagogue had bolstered Peter's faith, prompting a sense of anticipation that Jesus would do something great. Hearing testimonies of or observing modern-day miracles can certainly increase the faith of others, prompting them to trust God for the miracles they need as well. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

After the remarkable deliverance in the synagogue, Jesus went to the home of Peter and Andrew (Mark 1:29). There, Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever. Suffering no aftereffects, she rose and waited on her guests (verses 30–31).

News of the one who could both cast out demons and heal illnesses could not be kept quiet. No doubt those who had been at the synagogue were eager to tell others what they had seen. Waiting until sunset to avoid breaking the Sabbath (see Jeremiah 17:21–22), people brought all the sick and those possessed by demons to the door of Peter's house (Mark 1:32–33). No disease proved too difficult for Christ to heal.

As He did earlier in the synagogue, Jesus forbade demons to speak through those He was setting free (Mark 1:34). Although their factual knowledge of His identity was correct, Jesus would reveal himself in His own time and manner.

Jesus' actions highlight the important place of prayer in His life and ministry. Despite the demanding events of ministry in the synagogue, and ministry to the entire town after sunset, Jesus rose early in the morning for a time of communion with His Father (verse 35). **His disciples were surprised that He was not continuing to meet with the crowd from the day before (verses 36–37). Yet instead of remaining in Capernaum another day, Jesus drew attention to the greater picture—reaching out to a lost world to bring redemption to humanity (verses 38–39).**

Resource Packet Item 3: Jesus' Authority

Distribute the work sheet and discuss each type of authority Jesus demonstrated during His time on earth. **Ask:** How does this information give you confidence to trust Him for your needs.

Discuss

? How do the miracles in today's lesson help build your faith?

? Jesus made prayer a priority, even in demanding circumstances. How can we make prayer a priority in our lives today?

What Is God Saying to Us?

Say: Human beings do not live under their own authority. Not only are they required to obey other people who are over them, but most importantly, they are called to follow God's plan for their lives through Christ. Many voices compete for our attention; but above them all, we must hear Jesus calling us away from sin and into the life of His kingdom.

Living It Out

Ministry in Action

- Pray that God will use you to point someone else to Him.
- Look for God's hand in your life this week, both in your private time with Him and in your interactions with others.
- Find someone who is ill or in need and take time to minister to him or her in a practical way.

Daily Bible Readings

Monday:

God's Angel Prepares the Way.

Exodus 23:20–26

[Exo 23:20-26 KJV] 20 Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. 21 Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name [is] in him. 22 But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries. 23 For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off. 24 Thou shalt not bow down to their gods,

nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images. 25 And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee. 26 There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

Tuesday:

A Voice in the Wilderness.

Isaiah 40:3–5

[Isa 40:3-5 KJV] 3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: 5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see [it] together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken [it].

Wednesday:

Behold, He Is Coming.

Malachi 3:1–3

[Mal 3:1-3 KJV] 1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. 2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he [is] like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: 3 And he shall sit [as] a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

Thursday:

Jesus, the Son of God.

Luke 4:38–44

[Luk 4:38-44 KJV] 38 And he arose out of the synagogue, and entered into Simon's house. And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her. 39 And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she arose and ministered unto them. 40 Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them. 41 And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking [them] suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ. 42 And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place: and the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them. 43 And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent. 44 And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee.

Friday:

Jesus' Authority Questioned.

Luke 20:1–8

[Luk 20:1-8 KJV] 1 And it came to pass, [that] on one of those days, as he taught the people in the temple, and preached the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes came upon [him] with the elders, 2 And spake unto him, saying, Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? or who is he that gave thee this authority? 3 And he answered and said unto them, I will also ask you one thing; and answer me: 4 The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men? 5 And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then believed ye him not? 6 But and if we say, Of men; all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet. 7 And they answered, that they could not tell whence [it was]. 8 And Jesus said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.

Saturday:

Jesus' Authority Affirmed.

Hebrews 1:1–4

[Heb 1:1-4 KJV] 1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by [his] Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of [his] glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; 4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.