

Truth In Scripture
Pastor Rick Kabrick
Book of Mark. CH 2

As we have seen in our opening CH of the book of Mark, the book is attributed to John Mark, the cousin of a man named Barnabas (Actually COL 4:10 tells us that).

It was this John Mark who deserted or left Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary trip (ACT 13:13). It is believed by many (including me) that it was recorded by John Mark, but it was told to Jon Mark by the Apostle Peter (fisherman).

Mark quickly reconciled with Barnabas and eventually his friendship with Paul was restored as well (2TIM 4:11).



/I believe it was Mark who was the young man who ran away naked just after the LORD Yeshua was arrested. Also we can assume that Mark at least knew Yeshua to some degree.

Mark's writing style is one of action, not heavy theology, and thus I think we can assume that Mark was writing down the accounts of the Apostle Peter. And I think we can see Peter in the account.

The first chapter covers important events such as the baptism of Yeshua.

/MAR 1:9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

10 And immediately coming up out of the water, HE saw the Heavens opening, and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon HIM;

11 and a voice came from the heavens: “You are MY beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.”

One of the most familiar passages of the NT. And it clearly shows us the entire Trinity in action. GOD the Son is baptized into HIS earthly Ministry, GOD the Father speaks from Heaven, and GOD the Holy Spirit descends like a dove.

We also saw the temptation of Yeshua, the calling of the first disciples, and Yeshua’s earliest ministry in HIS home territory of Galilee.

We see that Yeshua's first audience focused on what HE could do instead of Who HE was and why HE had come.

Yeshua wanted to use HIS authority to teach, people instead looked to the signs of HIS authority—miracles.

Where HE wanted to prove HE was the Messiah through HIS fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies, HIS identity was instead publicly announced by demons.

And although Yeshua wished to explain HIS position in the legitimacy of the synagogue, HIS popularity quickly drove HIM to the wilderness.

Many believers in Yeshua often would rather use HIM to make their desires come true, rather than be mathetes students of HIS Word.

However, Yeshua did perform miracles to show HIS love for us. HE touched Peter's mother-in-law and healed her.

HE touched a man with leprosy and healed him. Both unheard of. As much as GOD wants us to follow HIM, HE also cares about us right here and right now.

When it comes to healing, we should have the attitude of the leper who was convinced Yeshua could heal him, but would heal him only IF Yeshua was willing...

All right let's get to Mark CH 2. Any questions about CH 1? Write to me...

1 When Yeshua came back to Capernaum (kah far = village and nakhum = comfort kahfar nahum or

Capernaum) a few days later, it was heard that HE was at home.



No other city enjoyed so much of our LORD's presence, during HIS earthly ministry, as did this city.

It was the place where many of HIS miracles were worked, and many of HIS recorded teachings were done.

/2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer space, not even near the door; and HE was speaking the word to them.



Teaching = λαλέω laleō = speaking, here teaching. It is in the imperfect, it had a past as it was from GOD, HE is GOD. Imperfect = HE was teaching now, from the past as well BUT it indicates there will be a time when HE will NOT be teaching them, so it sets up something happening....

3 And some people came (really and bringing...), bringing (P, they kept on bringing) to HIM a man who was paralyzed, carried by four men.

So these 4 men carrying a paralyzed man on a pallet or bed but they could not get near enough to Yeshua.

The number 4 indicates a global significance. 4 corners of the world for example, N, S, E, W. 4 seasons, etc.

So what is happening is a world changing worlds impact.

4 And when they (the people from Vs 3 there were 4) were unable to get to HIM because of the crowd, they removed (apos tegodzo = separated) the roof above HIM; and after digging an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralyzed man was lying.

Was lying = kah taca my – imperfect tense, meaning there was a beginning and there will be an end to him lying on that

stretcher or pallet. The man was not always in this condition.

5 And Yeshua, seeing their faith (pistos), aid to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

Notice

/Yeshua stops teaching...in order to speak directly to the paralyzed man, these 5 men had heard the teaching and their pistos, their faith was complete. Yeshua saw her raw oh saw their faith was not that moment, it had happened at points of time before this moment. So the LORD SAW their faith, meaning HE perceived it, knew it, completely.

They were believers in HIM. And not just for the miracle they were requesting, the miracle they knew would happen.

The word for son here is teknon = child, neuter so it really means a child of GOD.

6 But some of the scribes were sitting there and thinking it over in their hearts, deea logid'-zom my = logos – reasoning. Notice they were sitting there **THINKING**, they were reasoning considering, but in their own thoughts.

They were all thinking the same thing, but not talking. And it was going on for awhile.

7 “Why does this man speak that way? Or what speech this man is making. HE is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins except GOD alone?” the One GOD...

8 Immediately (you thoos) **Yeshua,** aware (epiginosko = = thoroughly understood) **in HIS spirit that they**

were thinking that way within themselves, said to them, “Why are you thinking about these things in your hearts?”

The Greek preposition *en* and usually indicates inside of from within...I say that because the point is that the LORD Yeshua knew what they were thinking.

That must have been or should have been quite a shock to these scribes (gramatoos = the religious teachers).

There is a little debate on whether they were saying it to each other, however most interpretations are on the side of these scribes were all thinking it.

Well without too much of a pause, we are not told that Yeshua paused, but I think

HE did, for just a moment or 2 and then fired both barrels if you will.

9 “Which is easier, to say to the paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven’; or to say, ‘Get up, and pick up your pallet and walk’?”

/The Jews knew only GOD could forgive sins. That was the whole idea with the book of Leviticus, and the tabernacle...

In a way, it was harder to heal the man than to forgive his sins. Because forgiveness is invisible, no one could verify at that moment the man was forgiven before GOD.

Yet it could be instantly verified whether or not the man could walk, that is whether he was healed.

/Yeshua also met the scribes on their own scholarly ground. The Rabbis had a saying, There is no sick man healed of his sickness until all his sins have been forgiven him... to the Jews a sick man was a man at odds with GOD.

10 But so that you may know (I doh = perceive fully, see fully perfect tense, the healing will continue...) **that the Son of Man has authority** (exo see ah = full authority, the same word in CH 1 when the people in the synagogue recognized the teaching was of authority) **that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” HE said to the paralyzed man,**

Yeshua often referred to HIMself with this title. This a reference to a verse that the Jews knew. From Daniel 7:13-14.

/DAN 7:13-14, One like a son of man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before HIM.

14 And to HIM was given dominion, Honor, and a kingdom, So that all the peoples, nations, and populations of all languages Might serve HIM. HIS dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And HIS kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed.

Yeshua used this title often because in HIS day the Jews were well aware that is was a Messianic title.

11 “I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet, and go home.”

So Yeshua had already said the man's sins were forgiven, that was most important. And only GOD could do or say that. Now HE completely heals the man. Again, demonstrating that HE was GOD Who forgave sins and healed.

12 And he got up and immediately picked up the pallet and went out in the sight of everyone, so that they were all amazed and were glorifying GOD, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

/Notice everyone was amazed, including the scribes. Yeshua Messiah is saying that anyone can just say those things, but HE did them. Yeshua did a lot of training using visual aids.

This event reveals a very important quality about our LORD: GOD meets us where we are. HE wants to bring us to faith, and then strengthen that faith, to grow and mature us. When we have hardships when we have a lack of understanding, HE will meet us where we are.

13 And HE went out again by the seashore; and all the people were coming to HIM (meaning they kept on coming), and HE was teaching them. (Diddosko = where we get didactic = teaching).

Yeshua taught in synagogues and in homes or a home, but HE often taught outdoors, in open spaces. This is significant to note. In a synagogue, HE

can challenge the Jewish scholars on points of theology.



/Outdoors, away from the physical and religious confinement of a room restricted to a group of men, HIS words reach a larger and more diverse audience.

While women were in general welcome to come to a synagogue, they were separated from the men, and often could not hear or see the teacher.

Although Yeshua does heal a woman in a synagogue (LUK 13), That was caused by an evil spirit. Otherwise most of HIS interactions with women are outside

(JOH 8 woman caught in adultery) or in private homes (MAR 14 was the woman with the perfumed oils).

Preaching outside the synagogue also gave Yeshua opportunities to reach those who were not welcome, including Gentiles and sinners.

We are called to preach Yeshua not just to other believers, but to the lost of the world.

14 As HE Yeshua passed by, HE saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax office, and HE said to him, “Follow ME!” And he (Levi) got up and followed HIM.

Now many scholars believe that this Levi was a Levite. If so we know certainly this

is not the job for a Levite who were the priestly order or tribe.

If he was a Levite, and that is somewhat debated, but if he was a Levite he was called to be a blessing and to serve GOD.

Instead he had become a kind of a trader of his people and he was now serving the enemy, the oppressor.

So Messiah comes up to him and notice what he says: Very simply, follow ME. akol-oo-theh'-o and Levi or Matthew did so, immediately.

The position of a tax collector was a powerful position. Probably like our IRS agents are and will be...

Usually tax collectors were very wealthy and how they get wealthy was from a

source of legal extortion (not biblically legal) because under Roman law.

/The Roman authority would say to them: Well this is your area and we need this much money this month. Whatever they collected above that was their salary. And don't forget, they had the Roman army to back them up.

When a Jew entered the tax service he was regarded as an outcast from society: he was disqualified as a judge or a witness in a court. He was excommunicated from the synagogue, and in the eyes of the community his disgrace extended even to his family.

So if you didn't mind being an outcast, if you didn't mind being seen as a traitor of

your people, well other than that it was I guess a good job.

Why if this Levi was a levite why would he do it, well we are not told, we could speculate...rebellion, frustration, either way he failed GOD, but the LORD came to HIM right where Levi was and redeemed him...

Yeshua was from this area, Levi would have heard the stories about Yeshua, Levi would have seen the great crowds following after Yeshua.

Now this One Who was famous in those parts, the One with the such a reputation comes up to levy or levi and he rises up and follows Yeshua.

15 And it happened that HE was reclining at the table in his house (this

is levi's house), **and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Yeshua and HIS disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following HIM.**

Most people consider this a kind of going away party for Levi by his friends upon leaving the tax collecting business.

Yeshua sat and ate with tax collectors and sinners and eating at the same table with people was definitely a message.

These tax collectors and sinners are identified in contrast with Yeshua. The ungodly Levi and his friends are dining with the Son of GOD and HIS chosen followers.

This contrast angered the devout Jewish religious leaders. Mark notes there were

many who followed Yeshua, including people who typically were not identified as religious.

So, here is the issue and problem with the religious leaders: Yeshua was the friend of sinners! Of course, the sinners knew this and responded to Yeshua's love and Grace and Mercy and friendship: for there were many, and they followed HIM.

16 When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that HE was eating with the sinners and tax collectors (they must have been spying on HIM), they the scribe = scholars said to HIS disciples, “Why is HE eating with tax collectors and sinners?”

The scribes deeply respected the dietary laws. At least 4 sections in the Mishnah warn against eating with sinners, a Jew who does not follow the extra-biblical laws. Pharisees tithed on even the tiniest amounts of food, even spices. The LORD addresses them in MAT 23.

/MAT 23:23, “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the more important provisions of the Law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

They were also meticulous about making sure they were ceremonially clean before they ate. The root of the word Pharisee is the Greek pa rash which means to

separate. The Pharisees excelled at separating themselves from the general population.

By questioning the disciples of Yeshua, it shows they held HIM in high regard for HIS teaching regarding the Torah. Even while they resented HIM for being a bit of a wild card and a popular one at that.

Seems they expected Yeshua to live like they did, but when HE breaks their rules, they become angry.

The Pharisees objected to Yeshua keeping company with sinners and eating with them. The Pharisees were a respected religious group but were often at odds with Yeshua. The Sadducees were from the wealthy families and were friendly with the Romans.

Also remember that the Pharisees believed in the resurrection of the dead and an afterlife, the Sadducees did not.

The Pharisee separated themselves from everything they thought was unholy, and they thought everyone except themselves was separated from the love of GOD.

17 And hearing this, Yeshua said to them, “It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Perhaps a bit of Divine sarcasm here. Almost like I came to heal those who need it, but you Pharisees think your perfect. Of course they were not.

Perception... Yeshua's answer was both simple and profound. HE was and is the

physician of the soul, and it made sense for HIM to be with those who were sick with sin.

18 John's disciples (mathetes = mah tay tace...) **and the Pharisees were fasting** (mace too oh = abstaining. Also notice, not all of John's disciples went to Yeshua, at least not right away) **and they** (indicating the disciples of John and the Pharisees) **came and said to HIM, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?"**

According to LEV 16, fasting was required that on the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur (day of the covering). Only one fast is prescribed, only one fast is demanded. There are many occasions in the OT where people fasted voluntarily,

and usually connected with sorrowful prayer.

Through the years and up until and including the time of Yeshua, people did voluntarily fast to pray, as people do even now.

In Jewish history there 1, 3, 7, 21, 40 day fasts. Not surprisingly, the Pharisees had gone beyond that, and they had designed a twice a week fast. In LUK 18 the Pharisee went into the temple to pray, remember what he said?

/LUK 18:11-12, The Pharisee stood and prayed, GOD, I thank You, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican (tax collector?). 12 I fast twice

in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

That was the rules of the Pharisees, not from the Scripture, but they required it.

The three major things that they did publicly, was to give their alms, money, to the poor, pray and fast. It was all very public, it was hypocritical.

Yeshua addressed this hypocrisy of it in the Sermon on the Mount in MAT 6.

Yeshua said,

MAT 6:5 “And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they will be seen by people.

Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

6 But as for you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

7 And when you are praying, do not use thoughtless repetition as the Gentiles do (babble), for they think that they will be heard because of their many words.

8 So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask HIM.

Paul in GAL 6 :12, They loved to make an open display in the flesh.

Back to Mark 2

19 And Yeshua said to them, “While the groom is with them, the attendants of the groom cannot fast, can they? As long as they have the groom with them, they cannot fast.

They are too busy serving the bride groom.

20 But the days will come when the groom is taken away from them, and then they will fast, on that day.

What day? This is why we need to

We need to understand Passover, we need to understand unleavened bread, we need to understand first fruits and Shavuot, Hanukah, the fall feasts...and we have seen them here to a degree. We

could spend more time on them and we will.

The day following the first day of Unleavened Bread is called Yom Ha Bikkurim, the Day of First fruits, or Reishit the beginning of the harvest.

/The majority of believers today, the majority go into churches and join congregations and celebrate holy days that are not holy at all.

They want nothing to do with the holidays of the Bible. What we would call the appointed times of the LORD.

Look at the most blessed day, the resurrection of Yeshua. They will speak of that in terms of the word Easter, a pagan god of fertility.

Now, early church leaders fasted before making important decisions. The church elders at Antioch fasted before sending Barnabas and Paul out on a mission trip. Barnabas and Paul fasted before appointing elders in the new churches (ACT 14).

So fasting is appropriate for Christians but it is not specifically commanded.

/Fasting should be voluntary and done in a way that brings one closer to GOD. It is seen as a way of weakening the flesh to become more in tune with the HS. Other than that it is very good for one to do.

But I'm not telling you to do it. One must be respectful of health concerns that would make fasting from all food dangerous to their health.

21 No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results.

This is a new something on an old something. The old served a purpose, now it is the new. Here this is a reference to the Law. The law was good, it was from GOD. But Yeshua is GOD and now the new covenant was here.

Yeshua did not come to patch the old but to establish the new. The old foretold of the new, and it the new was now here. With that statement Yeshua continues with another example.

22 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost

and the skins as well; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.”

Yeshua points out that HE did not come, to apply a patch of new ideas to the old garment of Judaism. HE came to complete Judaism and renew it into what GOD intended.

Patches would tear away from the old, leaving the Jews worse off than ever. Yeshua came to redeem, not patch holes.

/The noun translated tear is the Greek word σχίσμα schisma. The verb form, schizo is used to describe how the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

The curtain separated the altar from the Holy of Holies where the Ark of the Covenant was held. With Yeshua the

curtain, or veil, tears, top to bottom, to show that the barrier between GOD and the people is no more.

I think it is the same verb used in MAR 1:10 when the Heaven opens at the baptism and the Holy Spirit descends like a dove.

Someone can check...

This teaching comes right after the people's concern about why Yeshua and HIS disciples were not engaging in the practice of fasting as the disciples of John the Baptist and the Pharisees did.

Yeshua never condemns fasting itself; rather, HE said that HIS presence meant it was not time to abstain from celebration. If the Jews the people were to receive HIM, they would have to

adjust their expectations and not try to contain the new in the forms of the old.

Used wineskins have been stretched as far as they will go without bursting by the gases produced by the fermentation of fresh wine.

If one tries to mend a shrunken piece of cloth with a new patch, the patch will eventually shrink and tear away from the shrunken cloth, because the shrunken cloth will have no give left in it.

/New patches are for new cloth that can accommodate shrinking, and new wine is for new wineskins that can accommodate expansion.

The Pharisees lived like old wineskins. When new wine was poured in, the wineskins would break apart and the

wine wasted. Yeshua brought freedom in the form of grace and salvation, redemption, the ultimate sacrifice. HIS grace therefore could not be held in the legalistic rules that the Pharisees enforced over others.

I think there is a great application for every believer. Is there something in your life that you need to replace with the new creature you are in Yeshua? I don't know, I have to examine my own life but as a preacher of the Word I must ask the question. We could do an entire sermon on that, but ...

/Paul addresses the Galatian church for doing this. Some Jews in that area had influenced some in the new church of Yeshua that they could reconcile Judaism with Christianity, and to circumcise as

well as baptize. Some therefore wanted to keep the law only, others wanted to keep the law of ceremonies and ordinances, and to place it side by side with the Grace of the Gospel of Yeshua.

In fact they tried to put the new wine into old bottles. They were sincere but sincerely wrong.

It was that way with the early Christian Church, after the apostles were dead? Some tried to make the Gospel more acceptable and appealing by mingling it with philosophy. They sewed the new patch on the old garment. And in so doing they scattered the seeds of enormous evil. They paved the way for the RCC.

/23 And it happened that HE (Yeshua) was passing through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and HIS disciples began to make their way along while picking the heads of grain. So, they were not harvesting the crops. They were on the move, picking the heads of grain.



24 The Pharisees were saying to HIM, Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?

The Sabbath was to be a blessing, the legalistic Pharisees and other had made it a huge burden.

The Sabbath can be a blessing in our life today. It can be a relaxing time, a focused, dedicated time for family, for example.

In Israel for example, everything shuts down for the Sabbath. So people are left with themselves and family and friends maybe. But it is a time of relaxation and refocus on the LORD and all we have.

JAM 1:17, Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Doctor story

**25 And HE Yeshua said to them,
“Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions became hungry;**

/I love that: have you never read? Yeshua said that a lot. Have you not read, do you not know the scriptures? How that must have galled them, the Pharisees, Sadducees knew all the scripture, but never really understood it in terms of the LORD Yeshua Messiah.

In 1SAM 21 David came to Nob, to Ahimelech the priest; David asked for **“Now then, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever can be found.”**

The priest said, There is no ordinary bread, but there is consecrated or holy bread, **if only the young men have kept themselves from women.”**

David said: be assured, women have been denied to us, we have had no relations with women on this journey.



So the priest gave him the holy bread, for there was no bread there but the bread of the Presence, which is removed from before the LORD, to be replaced by hot bread on the day it is taken away. (1 Sam 21:6)

/So the priest gave David the consecrated bread; for there was no bread there except that bread of the Presence, this was the 12 loaves on the table of showbread. Remember that? Every sabbath the priests would eat it and then it was replaced. This probably occurred on a sabbath.

Yeshua continues to tell the Pharisees and everyone else that ceremony has its

place but mercy and grace is above ceremony.

**25 And HE Yeshua said to them,
“Have you never read what David did
when he was in need and he and his
companions became hungry;**

**26 how he entered the house of GOD
in the time of Abiathar (ab-ee-ath'-ar
father is great) the high priest, and ate
the consecrated bread, which is not
lawful for anyone to eat except the
priests, and he also gave it to those
who were with him?”**

**27 Yeshua said to them, The Sabbath
was made for man, and not man for
the Sabbath.**

Next the LORD delivers a bombshell:

28 So the Son of Man is LORD, even of the Sabbath.”

So, if David was allowed by the high Priest to eat the holy bread that was reserved for the priests, well then the Disciples were allowed to eat of the grain of the field of which there was no biblical prohibition...travelers were allowed to take a small amount for survival...not to harvest a field...

All questions about the observance of the SABBATH ought to be decided through the lens that Yeshua used.

/The Sabbath, says our LORD, was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.

The Sabbath was made for man. GOD made it for Adam in Paradise, and renewed it to Israel on Mount Sinai.

It was made for all mankind, not for the Jew only. It was made for man's benefit and happiness and blessing, not as a burden.

Thank You Yeshua!+