



Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,

Recap: Mark's Big Question - "Who is this man?"

1. Authority in teaching
2. Authority over demons
3. Authority to forgive sins
4. Authority over nature



Today's Sermon: "*Familiarity Breeds Contempt*"

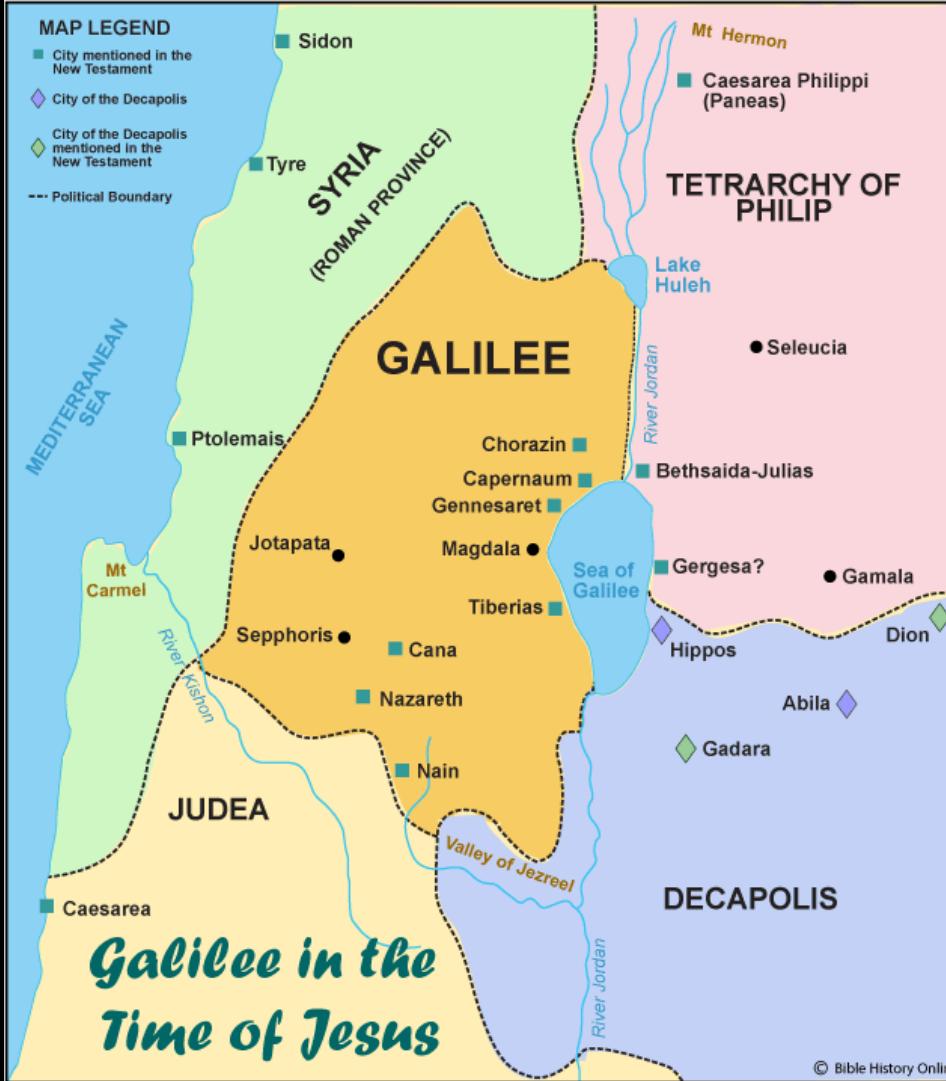
Mark 6:1-6

I. Hometown

Mark 6:1-6

He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ² And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.





While Nazareth was hidden behind a hill and away from any main roads, it would not have felt safe there when the Roman army occupied the heart of Galilee.

Sephoris was only a few miles away. From the hills above Nazareth, the whole horror could have been watched. Loud noises would have carried. The smoke from burning buildings would have been seen and smelt. The inhabitants of Nazareth would have known that the Roman army was inflicting terrible things on the nearby city.

Joan E. Taylor, *The Boy Jesus: Growing Up Judean in Roman Palestine* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2023).

If I had my novelist's hat on, I would be thinking of this scene of Joseph and little Jesus standing on the hill above Nazareth watching Sepphoris burn, and thinking, 'okay, this is what happens if you defy the might of Rome by military means.' So even though Galilee had this ferment of revolution and and wanting liberation, that would then go on to massive revolution in the decades following Jesus.

Joan E. Taylor, *The Boy Jesus: Growing Up Judean in Roman Palestine* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2023).

Jesus grew up in this time where this is the lesson to Galilee. Sepphoris was renamed Altercrataus, which is auto crater land, the city of the Emperor. So that was what was being built in Jesus' childhood.

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I. Hometown

II. That's just Jesus

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In what ways do we say, “That’s just Jesus?”

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- Church Kids
- Long-time attenders
 - Students

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This is proof that you can grow up around Jesus, and never really believe in him.

In what ways do we say, “That’s just Jesus?”

- A life coach
- Moral advice
- Comforter

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- A life coach
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This is proof you can know about Jesus and not let him make a difference in your life

- I. Hometown
- II. That's just Jesus
- III. Stumbling Block

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1 Peter 2:7-8

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”

⁸ and

“A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

Luke 12:51-53

Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵² For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

**Don't be surprised when those closest to you
stumble over Jesus**

**Don't be surprised when those closest to you
stumble over Jesus**

**But never forget that no one, any where, is
beyond the reach of the Gospel.**

- I. Hometown
- II. That's just Jesus
- III. Stumbling Block
- IV. No Mighty Work

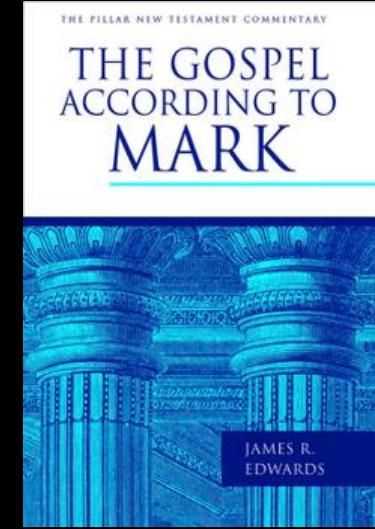
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⁴ And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.”

In the NT: Matt 13:57; Luke 4:24; 13:33; John 4:44.

Elsewhere: *Gos. Thom.* 31; *P.Oxy.* 31:1; Philostratus, *Life Apoll.* 1.354.12 (Letter 44); Plutarch, *Moralia*, “Exile,” 7.13; Dio Chrysostom, *Discourses* 47.6.

“We saw in 3:19 that opposition to Jesus would infiltrate his chosen circle of apostles; here, too, it infiltrates his own home. Once again (3:31-35) Jesus’ family are outsiders and he is a stranger in his own home. Thus, exposure to Jesus and the gospel is no guarantee of faith; indeed, apart from faith, exposure to the gospel inoculates as often as it enlivens.”



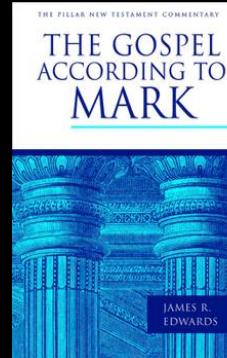
Edwards, J. R. (2002). *The Gospel according to Mark* (p. 174). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: Eerdmans; Apollos.

Mark 6:1-6

⁴ And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” ⁵ And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. ⁶ And he marveled because of their unbelief.

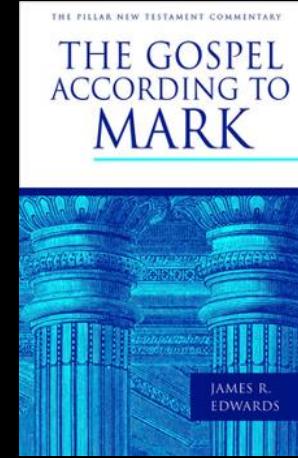
And he went about among the villages teaching.

“Mark says openly that Jesus “could not do any miracles there.” Mark is more willing to ascribe unapologetic humanness to Jesus than any other Gospel writer. Unlike the later gnostic Gospels that kept Jesus untarnished by humanity,⁷¹ Mark’s Jesus walks the same road that peasants and tax-collectors walk, facing weariness (4:38), disappointment (vv. 5–6), ignorance (13:32), fear (14:34) – and even the inability to influence his own family.”



Edwards, J. R. (2002). *The Gospel according to Mark* (p. 174). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: Eerdmans; Apollos.

“The concluding accent falls on the townspeople’s unwillingness to believe. We are again confronted with the mystery of the kingdom of God: some of those who have every opportunity to believe do not, and some who, like the Gerasene demoniac, would never be expected to believe do. No one can predict who will be insiders and outsiders, perhaps not even Jesus, “who was amazed at their lack of faith.”



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- II. That's just Jesus
- III. Stumbling Block
- IV. No Mighty Work
- V. Unbelief

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Gospel Application

How Familiar Are You With Jesus?