

**THE TWISTING
OF JESUS**

MARK 3:20-34



The Twisting Of Jesus

- This is the mindset of those around Jesus in our Scripture this morning
 - Family
 - **Mark 3:20-21 NIV**, 20 Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. 21 When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.”
 - **NASB**, they came out to take custody of Him; for they were saying, “He has lost His senses.”
 - Lost senses in Greek - to throw one out of his mind, drive one out of his senses

The Twisting Of Jesus

- This is the mindset of those around Jesus in our Scripture this morning
 - Family
 - They believed they needed to protect Jesus from Himself
 - He's believing what the people say about Him and what He says about Himself
 - Maybe the Religious Leaders had put pressure on the family
 - Jesus has lost His mind; He has gone insane; He's a lunatic
 - We need to go rescue Him, bring Him home where we can control Him
 - So, we don't talk about Jesus

The Twisting Of Jesus

- This is the mindset of those around Jesus in our Scripture this morning
 - Teachers of the Law, Scribes
 - **Mark 3:22 NIV**, And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, “He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons.”
 - **MSG**, The religion scholars from Jerusalem came down spreading rumors that he was working black magic, using devil tricks to impress them with spiritual power.
 - You can't trust Jesus – says, does, the spirit behind His work is dark and evil

The Twisting Of Jesus

- This is the mindset of those around Jesus in our Scripture this morning
 - Teachers of the Law, Scribes
 - He is a liar, fraud, deceiver, worker of the enemy
 - Can you just imagine someone saying they can forgive sins like He did – yeah right
 - All His authority is coming from Satan
 - Not only is He a lunatic like His family believes, He is also an imposter - not what he pretends to be and wants us to believe
 - So, we don't talk about Jesus, letting Him fade into history like the rest of the self-proclaimed Messiahs
 - This was all taking place in the middle of Jesus' daily chaos

The Twisting Of Jesus

- What were they all doing to Jesus?
 - Trying to twist Jesus into their image of the Messiah
- Can you just imagine this happening today with social media
 - What would have been said, spread, posted
- What word do we use to describe this type of behavior today?
 - Bullying – how relevant Scriptures are today

Jesus understands when you are being twisted by bullying

- Bullying - one who is habitually cruel, insulting, or threatening to others who are weaker, smaller, or in some way vulnerable
 - This can happen to your children at school and social media, in your workplace, in your marriage, at church
 - This is what the religious leaders were doing to Jesus
 - The religious leaders were trying to separate Jesus from the crowd
 - Using threats of intimidation, isolation from their social status, fear of their religious authority
 - Trying to put Jesus in His place
 - They may have done this to others that did not fit their mold, didn't accept their interpretation of Jewish traditions

Jesus understands when you are being twisted by bullying

- Satan still uses this technique today
 - Bringing up failures in the past you would like to keep hidden
 - Questioning your understanding of Scripture, “Did God really say?”
 - Bringing up fear in your future
- Jesus understands you and what you are going through
 - Jesus knows your hurts, pains, fears
 - Your negative self-image of yourself
 - Your desire to just have the voices in your head and heart silenced
 - He knows your need for hope in these times

Jesus understands when you are being twisted by bullying

- Scripture tells us God knows and gets you
 - **Luke 16:15 NIV**, “God knows your heart”
 - **Jeremiah 17:9-10 NIV**, “9 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? 10 “I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind”
- Scripture tells us where King David found his hope
 - **Psalms 130:5 NIV**, “I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.”
 - **Psalms 71:5 NIV**, “For you have been my hope, Sovereign LORD, my confidence since my youth.”

Jesus understands when you just want to throw up your hands and scream, “What’s the use!”

- What’s the use of –
 - Fighting to keep my marriage, these kids, your parents
 - Fighting this disease in trying to overtake my body and mind
 - Fighting this addiction screaming to be let loose
 - Fighting my anxieties, desires, finances, or past
 - Fighting the “I’m just a failure” or “Why keep going?” feelings
 - It seems like all I’m doing is barely keeping my head above water
- Good news, Jesus understands

Jesus understands when you just want to throw up your hands and scream, “What’s the use!”

- Jesus has spent the day resisting the twisting control of the Jewish Spiritual Leaders
 - Ministering to the crowds wanting something from Him
 - Feeling the need to teach about the Kingdom of God but limited in time
 - Needing refreshed but finding no time for it

Jesus understands when you just want to throw up your hands and scream, “What’s the use!”

- And now He is interrupted by His misunderstanding family arriving to take Him by force back to Nazareth
 - **Mark 3:31-32 NIV**, 31 Then Jesus’ mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. 32 A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, “Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you.”
- They were standing outside
 - At this point they are not disciples of Jesus
 - I don’t think they are boasting to others about being related to Him

Jesus understands when you just want to throw up your hands and scream, “What’s the use!”

- They were standing outside
 - “Tell Jesus to stop what He is doing and come out to us”
 - “We are more important than what Jesus is doing right now”
 - Maybe, “He should be giving more help in providing for our family and we’ve come to take Him home.”
- Can you feel the twisting here from those who should know Him best?
 - You will be misunderstood at some time during your walk with Jesus
 - Just think what we hold as truth and what the world thinks of it
 - How does Jesus handle these twistings?

Jesus brings truth into their twisting

- Simple logic - A house divided against itself cannot stand
 - **Mark 3:23-26 NIV**, 23 So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: “How can Satan drive out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come.”
 - If Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come

Jesus brings truth into their twisting

- Spiritual logic – “Maybe there is another/different way to look at this
 - **Mark 3:27 NIV**, 27 In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man’s house.
 - Jesus, “What you are seeing here is I have bound the strong man of this world and am in the process of plundering his house.”
 - What are the treasures Jesus is plundering?
 - Souls like you and me
 - Those living in the domain of darkness

Jesus brings truth into their twisting

- What spiritual truth can I bring into my twistings?
 - Rather than listen to the world's voice, or even you own emotions, what does your loving Heavenly Father say to you?
 - **Mark 3:33-34 NIV**, 33 “Who are my mother and my brothers?” he asked. 34 Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother.”
 - “The world may reject you, twist you, torment you but never forget you do not belong to this world, you are my beloved”
 - Jesus understands how this feels, the twisting upon Him

Jesus brings truth into their twisting

- What spiritual truth can I bring into my twisting?
 - Following Jesus can cause serious divisions within families
 - He teaches how we should honor our parents (*Matthew 19:19; Mark 7:9–13*).
 - But even He had to choose between taking the path God sets before Him, or doing what His family wants

Jesus brings truth into their twisting

- Now, in a packed room in a packed house, Jesus looks around and sees the people there that are like minded
 - They aren't waiting for Jesus to slip up
 - They aren't conspiring against Him
 - They don't think He's an embarrassment
 - They just want to listen to what He has to say, and absorb the truth
 - If this is you, you know what Jesus calls you?
 - Family
- There is a reason Scripture tells us not to forsake the gathering together as some are in the habit of doing

The Twisting Of Jesus

- Jesus knew who He was
 - It did not necessarily make it easier, but it kept Him grounded
- Jesus also knew what is important
 - **John 13:34-35 NIV**, 34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
 - Why is this command so important?
 - Because we are a spiritual family
 - Because this may be the only love and acceptance someone may receive today or in their lives

The Twisting Of Jesus

- Jesus also knew what is important
 - **John 13:34-35 NIV**, 34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
 - Why is this command so important?
 - Because this may be the only life-balance for someone after a week of twistings
 - Because there will be a time when we will need this in our live as well

The Twisting Of Jesus

- **John 10:10 NIV**, “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”
 - And that full, abundant life is only found in Jesus Christ
 - And your balanced life is only found in Jesus Christ

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