

HINDERING THE WORD

MARK 3:7-12

Hindrance

As the nation of Israel is poised to enter the promise land and Moses is about to die, he asked the people the question, “Why?”

- **Deuteronomy 8:3 NLT** Yes, he humbled you by letting you go hungry and then feeding you with manna, a food previously unknown to you and your ancestors. He did it to teach you that people do not live by bread alone; rather, we live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

As the nation of Israel is poised to enter the promise land and Moses is about to die, he asked the people the question, why?

- Isn't it curious that they were not to live solely on all the miracles God did?
- They were not to live solely on the understanding of God's presence with them.

Their success of occupying the land and enjoying the land is based solely on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

- There were three essentials for Israel's conquest and enjoyment of the Promised Land
 - Listening to God's Word
 - Remember God's Word
 - Obeying God's Word

For those who are now in the Kingdom of God, the true Promised Land, this is still essential as you occupy this land

- Jesus used this verse when being tempted and test by Satan in the wilderness in Matthew 4:4, “It is written...”
- The temptations in the wilderness were all about hindering Jesus from being and doing all the Father sent Him to do

What kept Jesus strong was the precious Word of God

- Hindrance = a thing that provides resistance, delay, or obstruction to something or someone.
 - The state of being interfered with, held back, or slowed down

What kept Jesus strong was the precious Word of God

- So, anything that hinders the work of God's word in us is to be identified, rebuked and set aside
- It is still Satan's chief tool today
- Not just falsehoods and half-truths but in more subtle ways
- Good news, Jesus has already been through this
- **Mark 3:7-12**

What began for Jesus in the wilderness continues in our scripture today

- Satan attempted to hinder Jesus in the wilderness by offering different ways to be the Messiah
- There are so many ways the gospel can get hindered in our lives
- Hardship, Failure, Busy-ness of Life, Laziness, Success
- Did you identify any hinderances to Jesus in these scriptures?

There was the hinderance of time and space pressure

- **Mark 1:38 NIV** Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.”
- To do this Jesus needed time to preach and space to do it
- So what is the best way for Satan to hinder Jesus, if he can't remove him?
 - Make Jesus so busy he doesn't have time or space

There was the hinderance of time and space pressure

- **Mark 1:36-37 NIV** 36 Simon and his companions went to look for him, 37 and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”
- **Mark 1:45 NLT** But the man went and spread the word, proclaiming to everyone what had happened. As a result, large crowds soon surrounded Jesus, and he couldn't publicly enter a town anywhere. He had to stay out in the secluded places, but people from everywhere kept coming to him.

There was the hinderance of time and space pressure

- **Mark 3:20-21 NLT** 20 One time Jesus entered a house, and the crowds began to gather again. Soon he and his disciples couldn't even find time to eat. 21 When his family heard what was happening, they tried to take him away. "He's out of his mind," they said.

There was the hinderance of time and space pressure

- **Mark 3:7-8 NLT** 7 Jesus went out to the lake with his disciples, and a large crowd followed him. They came from all over Galilee, Judea, & Jerusalem, Idumea, from east of the Jordan River, and even from as far north as Tyre and Sidon. The news about his miracles had spread far and wide, and vast numbers of people came to see him.

There was the hinderance of time and space pressure

- vast numbers of people came to see him
 - RSV – a great multitude
 - AMP – Throng = A large, densely packed crowd
 - Not 100s but 1,000s coming from 50 to 100 miles away, from all directions

There was the hinderance of time and space pressure

- They were pressing Jesus for his time and his space to the extent he had to have a small boat ready to keep from being crushed
- Jesus does understand the pressures of life

There was the hinderance of time and space pressure

- He does understand the pressures on your time and the crowding out of what is best with better or good
 - There were times he withdrew to a private place
 - There were times he was creative, small boat

Pressed (Unknown)

Pressed out of measure and pressed to all length;
Pressed so intensely, it seems beyond strength;
Pressed in the body, and pressed in the soul;
Pressed in the mind, till the dark surges roll.
Pressure by foes, and pressure by friends--
Pressure on pressure, till life nearly ends.

Pressed (Unknown)

Pressed into knowing no helper but God;
Pressed into loving the staff and the rod.
Pressed into liberty where nothing clings;
Pressed into faith for impossible things.
Pressed into tasting the joy of the Lord;
Pressed into loving a Christ-life outpoured.

There was the hinderance of the constant pull to let the secondary become the primary

- What did Jesus say he came for?
 - To preach the Good News
- What did the people want?
 - A miracle worker, Someone to take care of what they wanted taken care of
 - They wanted a charismatic leader that could take on the religious leaders and Roman government

There was the hinderance of the constant pull to let the secondary become the primary

- **vs 10 NLT** He had healed many people that day, so all the sick people eagerly pushed forward to touch him.
 - Everyone was wanting something from Jesus
 - They were not just touching but hanging onto him, pulling him in their direction
 - They were not there to hear the words of Jesus to be changed

There was the hinderance of the constant pull to let the secondary become the primary

- They were pushing Jesus to do and be what they wanted
- They misunderstood the purpose for which Jesus came and they began to emphasize that which was secondary
- He came to heal spirits, to restore souls, to proclaim God's favor upon His people

There was the hinderance of the constant pull to let the secondary become the primary

- **Luke 19:10 NIV** For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”
- Jesus healed the body to demonstrate what he could do with the spirit, which is eternal

There was the hinderance of the constant pull to let the secondary become the primary

- This kind of pressure is on every born again child of God and their family today
- Work is important so you can provide for your family, but it is never to become the primary in your life
- What else can we put there?
 - Things, sports, leisure, friends, ministry....

There was the hinderance of an unworthy word spoken

- This one is the hardest one to deal with because we only control the response half
- **Mark 3:11-12 NLT** 11 And whenever those possessed by evil spirits caught sight of him, the spirits would throw them to the ground in front of him shrieking, “You are the Son of God!” 12 But Jesus sternly commanded the spirits not to reveal who he was.

There was the hinderance of an unworthy word spoken

- This was a direct attack on the character of Jesus
- **Mark 3:22 NLT** But the teachers of religious law who had arrived from Jerusalem said, “He’s possessed by Satan, the prince of demons. That’s where he gets the power to cast out demons.”
 - Demons were liars and untrustworthy, so whatever they said was could not be believed

There was the hinderance of an unworthy word spoken

- **Proverbs 12:18 NIV** The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing
- **James 3:7-8 NLT** 7 People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, 8 but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison.

There was the hinderance of an unworthy word spoken

- **Ephesians 4:29 ESV** Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

There was the hinderance of an unworthy word spoken

- Jesus silenced their voice in his being
 - He knew who he was
 - He did not take upon himself the deadly poison of their words
 - He very simply trusted himself into the hands of his Heavenly Father

**The simple summary of this message is this,
“Jesus understands”**

- **Hebrews 4:14-16 NLT** 14 So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. 15 This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. 16 So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

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