

**THE MASTER OF INTERRUPTIONS, MARK 1:21-27**

## The Master Of Interruptions

- Interrupt - To interfere in someone's activity, disrupt their conversation, or to disturb their peace and quiet
  - Have you ever been praying or reading your Bible when a random thought just popped into your mind, and you drifted toward it
  - Maybe you keep drifting toward making your mind list of things to do for the day
  - Or maybe this is when the kids decide to have a fight, or the dog must go outside now or 1,000 other things that can interrupt

## The Master Of Interruptions

- We see the first recorded interruption in Scripture in **Genesis 3:1 NIV**,  
Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”
  - I wonder if this caught her by surprise
  - The purpose was to trip her up, to start a different line of thinking, to appeal to her natural tendencies
- I can't pin every interruption in our lives on Satan but whenever you are doing God things, Satan is there to distract
- We see this consistently in Jesus' life

## Scripture

- **Mark 1:21-27 NIV**, 21 They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. 22 The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.
  - 23 Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, 24 “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”
  - 25 “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” 26 The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.
  - 27 The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.”

## Scene 1 – Jesus, the master teacher, speaking from authority

- Not speaking with authority, that will come later, but from authority
- **Mark 1:22 NIV**, 22 The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.
- All four Gospels reveal that Jesus amazed people during His earthly ministry in two main ways
  - First, the signs and wonders He performed were unlike anything they had heard or seen
    - **Mark 4:41 NIV**, They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”
    - **Luke 5:26 NIV**, Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

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- Second, people were awestruck by our Lord's teachings
  - The insights of His interpretation of the Old Testament and by His evident authority
  - **Matthew 22:33 NIV**, When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

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- Jesus did not appeal to the authority of various rabbis
  - He taught as one who knew the mind of God and was commissioned to declare it
  - He did not quote the teachings of the scribes and rabbis as binding
  - He expected others to see His teaching as superseding all others
  - Jesus did not rely on the expertise of others but spoke the very words of the Creator

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- What do you think this teaching time was like?
  - Were the people tuned in, riveted, focused on Jesus?
  - Hungry to hear more?
  - Were they aware of their surroundings, distracted?



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- What do you think this teaching time was like?
  - Under the direction of the Holy Spirit, we can be just as tuned in and focused as these people, just as hungry to hear more
  - **Luke 24:42 NIV**, They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

## Scene 2 – A sudden interruption disrupts Jesus' teaching

- **Mark 1:23-24 NIV**, 23 Just then (*Suddenly, without warning*) a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out (*screamed*), 24 “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”
  - If it was me, I would consider this a major interruption, a definite mood changer
  - How many here would be looking for a door if this happened here?
- When you are doing God's work, all interruptions have a purpose
  - We get irritated, disturbed, and look for answers to the interruptions so you can get back to what you were doing
  - Or we can see God's hand in teaching us something about ourselves or the interruption itself

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- What was the purpose of this interruption?
  - To distract from the presence and teachings of Jesus
  - To tune out Jesus and onto anything else
  - To preventing them from hearing Jesus’ word accurately
  - To question the authenticity and authority of Jesus
- What is the purpose of your interruptions this morning?

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- I believe Jesus knew this man was there
  - He wanted the man to hear His teaching
  - He didn't run him out, Jesus never addressed the man at all
  - He wanted the impure spirit to respond
  - He was prepared, it did not throw Jesus off

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- What did the impure spirit say that was untrue?
  - Nothing, then why not let the man keep speaking?
  - It took their eyes off of Jesus and put them on the man
  - This would ruin Jesus' reputation – an impure spirit speaking for Jesus or saying the same things
  - Mostly the purpose was to prevent Jesus from going to the cross at the appointed time

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- What did the impure spirit say that was untrue?
  - With this information the people would have tried to make Jesus their political king
  - To force Jesus to reveal Himself before the appointed time
  - **John 10:9-10 NIV**, “9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

## Scene 3 – Jesus takes control of the interruption bringing good out of it

- **Mark 1:25-27 NIV**, 25 “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!”  
26 The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. 27 The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.”
  - Does this sound like the timid, meek, or unassertive person that Jesus is often presented as?
  - Sternly in Greek = to be moved with anger, to reprimand firmly

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- Two commands of Jesus
  - Be quiet = to be muzzled (*no longer a threat*), silenced (*voiceless*)
  - Come out of him = release your authority on him, cease tormenting and controlling him, he is no longer yours, let him go
  - These are the commands given to our enemy when we receive Jesus as our Savior and Lord



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- Two things to notice - immediate obedience and the extreme hatred of Jesus
  - The man shook, convulsed violently – attempting to scare and intimidate
  - Followed by a shriek of hatred – attempting to implant its voice in their memory
  - Followed by peace, calm, and astonishment

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  - The enemy wanted to tarnish Jesus’ name, soil His teaching, lead the people to question and reject Jesus
  - But God had other plans

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- How did the Holy Spirit bring good out of this interruption?
  - The people were amazed - to wonder, marvel, be struck with admiration or astonishment
  - Amazed at His teaching - A new teaching (*as compared to the rabbis*)—and with authority!
  - Amazed at His authority - He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.

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- What Satan meant for evil God meant for good
  - **Genesis 50:19-21 NIV**, 19 But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

## The Master Of Interruptions

- When I started laying out this message, I was looking at it as if Satan was the Master of Interruptions
  - Satan is not the master of interruptions, Jesus is
- Life interruptions are going to happen to you just like they did Jesus
  - Every day of Jesus' ministry Satan attempted to interrupt Him – Sometime with evil spirits, Religious Leaders, His own family, His own disciples
  - Jesus knows how to conquer interruptions and bring glory and honor to Himself through you
  - The enemy of Jesus will attempt to tarnish His name, character, trustworthiness in your faith

## The Master Of Interruptions

- Life interruptions are going to happen to you just like they did Jesus
  - The enemy of Jesus will attempt to tarnish your name, character, overwhelm you with issues, scream in your heart of your lacking
    - “You are alone. You are not worthy. You are mine.”
  - Scripture tells us he is the “Father of lies” and half-truths, (*John 8:44*)

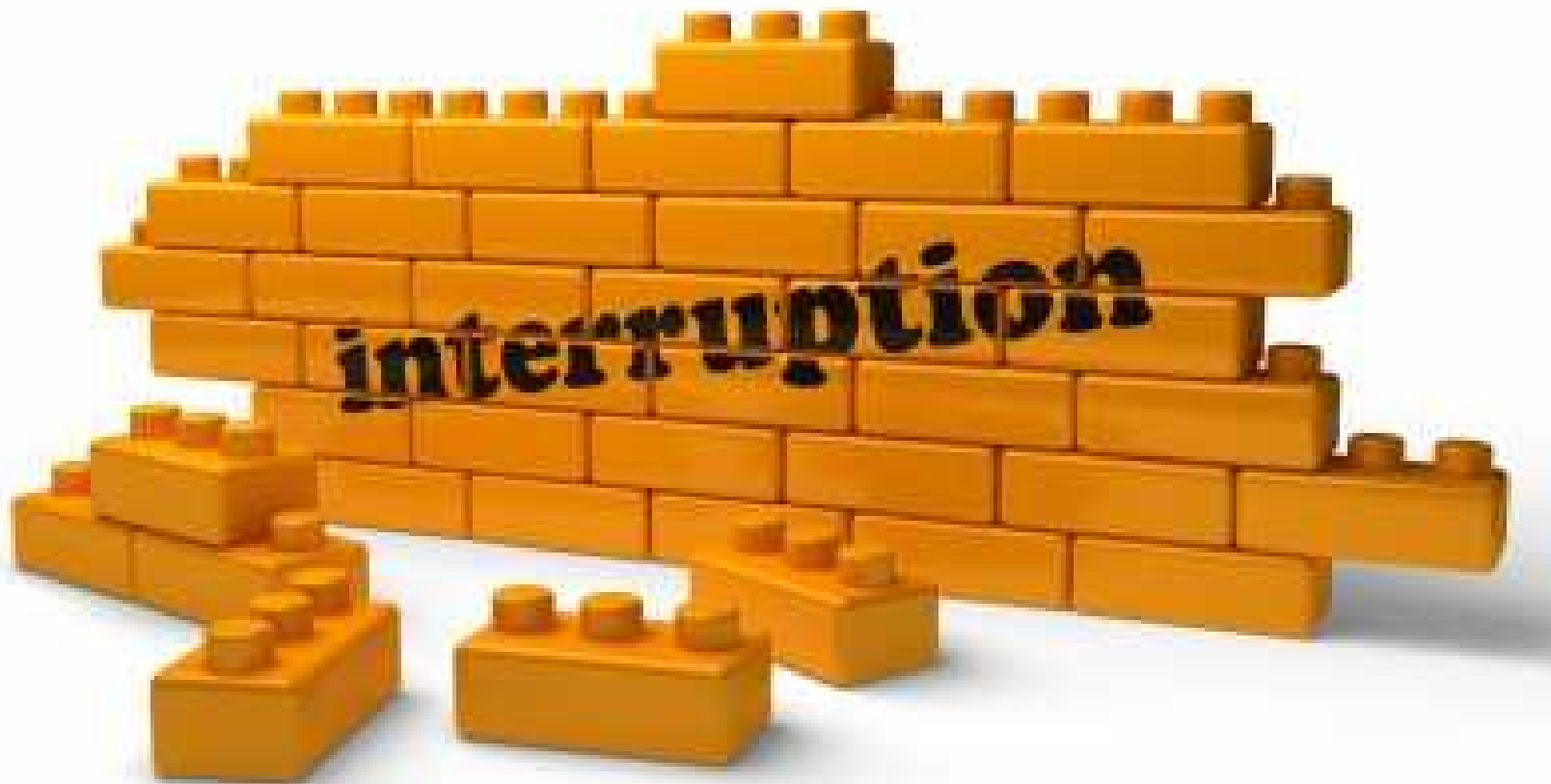
## The Master Of Interruptions

- Jesus is the master of your interruptions
  - He can quiet them down as you learn to trust in Him and His promises
  - He can lead you through as you learn to walk and respond daily to His presence
  - His purpose for allowing your interruptions is to grow you spiritually and faithfully
  - **James 1:2-5 NIV**, “2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

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- Jesus is the master of your interruptions
  - **Psalm 46:10 AMP**, “10 Be still and know (recognize, understand) that I am God.”
  - Let the interruption roar, you may not be able to silence it at this time, but you can silence yourself
  - You, still yourself in God Almighty and in His eternal love and devotion to you
  - **Psalm 56:3-4 NIV**, “3 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. 4 In God, whose word I praise— in God I trust and am not afraid.”
  - **Isaiah 12:2 ESV**, “2 Behold, God, my salvation! I will trust and not be afraid, For the Lord God is my strength and song; Yes, He has become my salvation.”





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