

Casting out Demons and Choosing Disciples **Mark 3:7-19**

Handling destructive plots, demanding crowds and demons, 7-12

- ❖ 3:7-12 = editorial summary of Jesus' ministry (like 1:34-39). Realizing a plot is afoot (Matt. 12:15), He withdraws from synagogue ministry and mainly will be near the Sea of Galilee, in homes or hills up through ch.8.
- ❖ Response to the Pharisees = distant and more critical of them, 7:6ff.
- ❖ Response to the crowds = serving but with a boat ready for escape.
- ❖ Response to the demons = command of silence, 1:25, 34

Handling the problem of being alone and overwhelmed, 13-19

- ❖ Though Jesus is being rejected by the religious establishment, He is also being swamped by masses of needy people. His solution after praying all night (Lk. 6:12,13) is to appoint the twelve for two purposes:
 - 1) Companionship (*they would be with Him*, Matt. 26:38, Lk. 22:14)
 - 2) Delegation (*that He could send them to preach / cast out demons*)Mark uniquely highlights casting out demons, as in 7:7.

Note who chooses whom, see Jn. 15:16, Acts 10:41 / Eph. 1:4,5 and that the 12 are listed 4x in NT, w/Peter always listed first and Judas last. The sending out of the 12 isn't till 6:7-13. Their role also = *witnesses* (Acts 10:39-42) & represent tribes in Rev. 21:14.

- ❖ Exorcisms are highlighted again (1:21-28,34, 5:1-20, 7:24-30, 9:14-29). What about us? Eph. 6:10-18, I Tim. 4:1-5, in future--Rev. 9:20, 16:14



