

## Perception versus Truth; Mark 6:1-6

### I. Perception

A. We tend to remember friends and family by how we knew them

B. We often fail to see what friends or family have become

C. They can go away to college or the military and when they return, we still think of them as who they were when they left

D. They may have become an expert in a certain field, but that is not how we see them

E. It takes time and examples of their work for our perception to change

F. Jesus experienced this in His hometown... twice

1. Mark 6:1–6; <sup>1</sup> He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup> 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? <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to them, “**A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.**” <sup>5</sup> And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. <sup>6</sup> And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.

G. The passage in Luke 4:16-30 is not a parallel passage

1. Mark tells us His disciples followed Him into Nazareth

2. Luke tells us he chose his first disciples (Peter, James, and John) after His visit to Nazareth in Luke 5:1-11

3. We can only conclude that these are two different visits to Nazareth

4. This is important in our understanding of the mercy and grace Jesus bestows on us

H. The Nazarenes were “astonished”

1. To strike out with panic, to amaze

2. “They did not disagree with his teachings, but questioned his qualifications and schooling” Bob Utley

I. This being Nazareth’s final opportunity to recognize Jesus as the Messiah, Mark gives us three criteria, ““Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands?”

### II. Where did Jesus Get It?

A. A lot of times we recognize schools by the quality of their teaching

1. Harvard, Princeton and Yale are widely recognized for it’s School of Law

2. Berkley is widely recognized for it’s teaching in the arts, specifically photography

3. Texas Tech is known regionally for its engineering and medical programs

B. It’s not what you know, but where you went to school

1. We would tend to listen to someone talk about law if they graduated from Harvard

2. We would tend to dismiss someone from a no name law school

C.If Jesus had been brought up to be a Pharisee, taught by them, studied the Talmud (the central text of Judaism), which is comprised of the Mishnah (the first major written work of Jewish oral tradition) and the Gemara (Jewish commentary of the Mishnah), they might have accepted him... but, he didn't

D.But my question is, just where did Jesus receive His instruction? Is His "schooling" just as good, if not better than the Jewish teachings?

1.Luke 2:41–49; <sup>41</sup> Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup> And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup> but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup> and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup> After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup> And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." <sup>49</sup> And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

2.Some versions have it translated "about my Father's business"

3.Luke 10:21–24; <sup>21</sup> In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>22</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." <sup>23</sup> Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! <sup>24</sup> For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it."

E.Where did the Lawyers and Pharisees get their teachings

1.Talmud

a)Mishnah - Jewish oral tradition

b)Gemara - Rabbinical commentary on the Mishnah

2.The answer is, from man

F.Jesus received His teachings directly from the Father, the "Lord of heaven and earth"

G.Jesus' "schooling" far surpasses any of the ivy league schools of the 1st or 21st century!

III.What is the Wisdom?

A.Let's look at some of Jesus' wisdom

1.Mark 12:13–17; <sup>13</sup> And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk. <sup>14</sup> And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone's opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay

taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?" <sup>15</sup> But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me look at it." <sup>16</sup> And they brought one. And he said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said to him, "Caesar's." <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at him.

2. Matthew 22:34–46; <sup>34</sup> But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. <sup>35</sup> And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup> "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" <sup>37</sup> And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup> This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." <sup>41</sup> Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, <sup>42</sup> saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." <sup>43</sup> He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, <sup>44</sup> "'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet' '?" <sup>45</sup> If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" <sup>46</sup> And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

B. Just where did it come from?

1. First I want to point out that there are two kinds of wisdom

2. 1 Corinthians 1:20–25; <sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

C. Now we can see where Jesus received His wisdom

1. Luke 2:39–40; <sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

<sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

D. Jesus received his "schooling" and wisdom from the Lord of heaven and earth, but what about His mighty works?

IV. Mighty Works

A. First, I must point out the Pharisees accusations of where Jesus received His power

1. Matthew 12:22–24; <sup>22</sup> Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. <sup>23</sup> And all the people were amazed, and said, "Can this be the Son of David?" <sup>24</sup> But

when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons."

B.I would point out that it is even written in the Talmud (The central text of Judaism) that Jesus' power comes from Satan

C.The Talmud does not challenge the fact that Jesus performed these miracles, just where He received the power from

D.Jesus' Power comes from somewhere else

1.Mark 4:35-5:43

a)Jesus calms a storm (power over the earthly)

b)Jesus casts out demons (power over the spiritual)

c)Jesus heals a woman's illness (power over the physical)

d)Jesus raises a dead girl back to life (power over death)

2.John 5:36; **But the testimony that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me.**

E.God gave Jesus the power to accomplish these "mighty works"

V.Perception Versus Truth

A.What do you see?

B.A perception of Jesus that conforms to your own ideas about faith and religion?

C.The Truth of Jesus, that He is God's firstborn sent to redeem the lost and that salvation is found only in His name