

Mark 1:12-15

Jesus' Coming Means The Kingdom of God Is Near

August 7, 2011

Jesus: True Israel

Mark 1:12-13 Immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness. And He was **in the wilderness forty days** being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts, and the angels were ministering to Him.

Jesus Identified With Israel

Exodus 4:22 Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, "Israel is My son...'
Deuteronomy 8:2 ...God has led you in the **wilderness these forty years**, that He might humble you, testing you,
Mark 1:11 ...You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased.
Mark 1:13 ...the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness. And He was **in the wilderness forty days** being tempted...

The Kingdom of God Is Near

Mark 1:14-15 Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Think About It:

Mark 1:14 Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God...

- Paradidomi = "Divine Passive" (God did it!)

Matthew 11:3 "Are You the Expected One, or shall we look for someone else?"

- We can trust that God even uses our "tragedies" for His glory and our good! (Gen 50:20; Rom. 8:28).

Application

1. Do we believe there is only one gospel?

Mark 1:14b Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God...

- Some claim salvation by works in the O.T.
- Les Feldick claims Paul was the first to teach the gospel of grace: "And that's Paul's theme all through his writings. It's as different as day from night with Peter's message. Peter's sermon just doesn't fit Paul's doctrine at all" (<http://www.lesfeldick.org/lesqa-b.html#2b>).

1. Peter and Paul Had The Same Gospel

Acts 2:38-39 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and **you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit** For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.

Galatians 3:2 This is the only thing I want to find out from you: **did you receive the Spirit** by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

1. There Has Always Been One Gospel!

Acts 13:22-23 He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will do all My will. **From the descendants of this man,** according to promise, God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus...

Acts 13:32 And we preach to you the good news of the promise **made to the fathers.**

1. There Has Always Been One Gospel!

Acts 26:6-7 And now I am standing trial for the hope of the promise **made by God to our fathers** the promise to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly serve God night and day. And for this hope, O King, I am being accused by Jews.

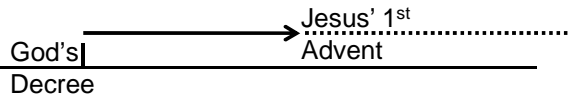
Luke 24:44 These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the **Law of Moses** and the **Prophets** and the **Psalms** must be fulfilled.

Application

2. We must understand that the kingdom of God is both an imminent threat to unbelievers and an imminent blessing to believers.

Mark 1:15 The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.

Eggizo = "is imminent" (Perfect Tense)



2. Why Imminence Matters

Ezekiel 12:21-23 Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying Son of man, what is this proverb you people have concerning the land of Israel, saying, 'The days are long and every vision fails'? "Therefore say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God, "I will make this proverb cease so that they will no longer use it as a proverb in Israel." But tell them, "**The days** draw near as well as the fulfillment of every vision.

(cf. 2 Peter 3:3-10)

2. The Biblical Data on Imminence

Joel 2:1 Blow a trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm on My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, For the day of the LORD is coming; Surely it is near...

Luke 21:8 And He said, "See to it that you are not misled; for many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not go after them.

2. The Biblical Data on Imminence

Romans 13:12 The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

James 5:8 You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

1 Peter 4:7 The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

2. Answering Objections

John 11:55 Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up to Jerusalem out of the country before the Passover to purify themselves. (Category: A Known Day)

James 5:8 ...the coming of the Lord is near.
(Category: An Unknown Day)

Mark 14:32 But of that day and hour no one knows...

Application

3. Repentance is essential for salvation and goes "hand in hand" with saving faith.

Confession: Agreeing with God's verdict (Ps 32:5; Mark 1:5)

Change of heart/mind: Acts 26:20 ...kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

3. Repentance and Faith

Given by God just like faith:

Acts 13:48 When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and **as many as had been appointed** to eternal life believed.

2 Timothy 2:25 ...correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps **God may grant them** repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth...
