



**Mark 6:45-52**

Is Your Heart Too Hard To Recognize Jesus?

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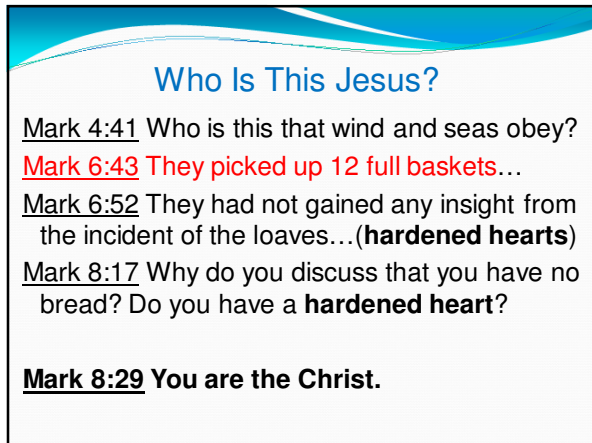
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**Who Is This Jesus?**

Mark 4:41 Who is this that wind and seas obey?

Mark 6:43 They picked up 12 full baskets...

Mark 6:52 They had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves...(hardened hearts)

Mark 8:17 Why do you discuss that you have no bread? Do you have a **hardened heart**?

Mark 8:29 You are the Christ.

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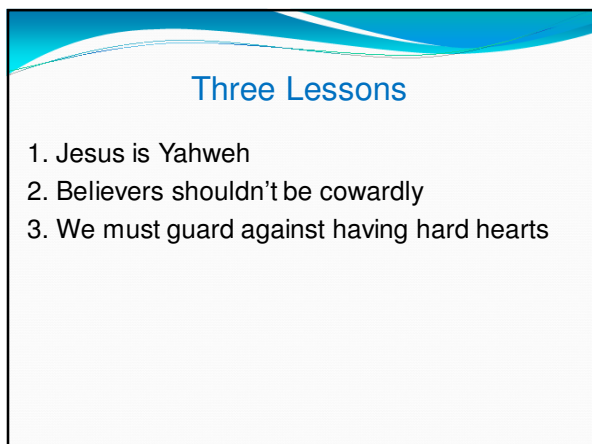
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**Three Lessons**

1. Jesus is Yahweh
2. Believers shouldn't be cowardly
3. We must guard against having hard hearts

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### Setting: Jesus Withdraws To Pray

#### Pattern of Withdrawing

Mark 1:35 Withdraws after healing many

Mark 6:45 Withdraws after feeding many

Mark 14:32 Withdraws before the cross

#### Reason for Withdrawing

John 6:14 Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

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### Jesus Prays On The Mountain

Mark 6:45-46 Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself was sending the crowd away. After bidding them farewell, He left for the mountain to pray.

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### Jesus Is Yahweh

Mark 6:47-48 When it was evening, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and He was alone on the land. Seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind was against them, at about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them.

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### Jesus Does What Yahweh Did

Exodus 33:19 **"I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you,** and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious..."

Job 9:8, 11 He alone stretches out the heavens and tramples down the waves of the sea...

**Were He to pass by me,** I would not see Him; were He to move past me, **I would not perceive Him.**

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### The Significance of "I Am"

Exodus 3:14 God said to Moses, **"I AM WHO I AM"**; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, '**I AM** has sent me to you.'"

#### Apologetic Value

1. Out of nothing – nothing comes
2. All other things are created
3. The only "Savior" – Isaiah 43:11

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### The Disciples Don't Recognize Jesus

Mark 6:49-50 But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed that it was a ghost, and **cried out**; for they all saw Him and were terrified. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, **"Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid."**

1. Do they hear Jesus say: "It's me – Jesus"
2. Do they hear Jesus say: "I AM"

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### The Disciples Have Hard Hearts

Mark 6:51-52 Then He got into the boat with them, and the wind stopped; and **they were utterly astonished**, **for** they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but **their heart was hardened**.

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### Who Is Responsible For The Hard Heart?

Isaiah 63:17 Why, O LORD, do **You cause us to stray** from Your ways and **harden** our heart from fearing You? Return for the sake of Your servants, the tribes of Your heritage.

James 1:13-14 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and **He Himself does not tempt anyone**. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed **by his own lust**.

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### Who Is Responsible For The Hard Heart?

Who Has It?	Whose fault?
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Hard Hearts:	All People	Our Fault
Soft Hearts:	Elect	God's doing

Romans 11:7 ESV What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. **The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened...**

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### Only God Can Give Us A New Heart

Ezekiel 36:25-26 Then **I will sprinkle clean water on you**, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. Moreover, **I will give you a new heart** and put **a new spirit** within you; and I will remove the heart of stone...

John 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless** one is **born of water and the Spirit** he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

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### What Shall We Do?

Hebrews 3:13-15 But **encourage one another** day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be **hardened by the deceitfulness of sin**. For we have become partakers of Christ, **if we hold fast** the beginning of our assurance firm until the end, while it is said, "Today if you hear His voice, **Do not harden your hearts**, as when they provoked Me."

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### Let Us Turn From Sin And Unbelief

Hebrews 3:18-19 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were **disobedient**? So we see that they were not able to enter because of **unbelief**.

#### Remedies for:

Disobedience

**Flee** – 1 Cor. 6:8

Unbelief

**Devote** – Acts 2:42

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