

THIS WEEK’S MESSAGE

JULY 13TH, 2025 // GOSPEL OF MARK

REJECTION (MARK 6:1–6)

STAYING IN GALILEE

Jesus left the area after healing Jairus’s daughter and the woman with the bleeding condition and went back to his hometown, Nazareth.

- With His disciples, **Jesus was coming back home as a rabbi with His students**, and now, this teacher was invited to speak in the synagogue.

OFFENDED BY JESUS

Many who heard Jesus speak were astounded at the things He taught. They were not amazed like those we have previously seen, but **they were offended by him** (v. 3).

- Unlike the Pharisees and scribes, who were **offended by what Jesus said**, those who were offended in the synagogue were **offended because of who He was**.

THE ROCK OF SALVATION OR OFFENSE?

For Believers, Jesus is the **rock of our salvation** (2 Samuel 22:47). When we place our faith in Him, building our lives upon Him, we have a solid foundation that the storms of this life cannot destroy (Matthew 7:24–29).

- If we are unwilling to place our faith in Jesus, He is the **rock of offense** that causes us to trip and fall to our own ruin (1 Peter 2:7–8).

THEIR STUMBLING WAS BECAUSE OF WHO HE WAS

They mocked and insulted Jesus because they “knew” Him for 30 years. They knew His family, and they knew He was only a blue-collar common worker, not a trained teacher or scholar.

- It is typically most difficult for those who “knew” us to accept and believe the transformation we receive in Christ.**

“A PROPHET IS NOT WITHOUT HONOR...”

Jesus used a well-known proverb of His time to identify Himself with the OT prophets before Him, who were often ridiculed, ignored, and sometimes martyred.

- Instead of honoring Jesus, those in His **hometown** of Nazareth, His own **family** (John 7:5; Mark 3:21), and His own **household** (Jews) **rejected His message and claims**.

“HE WAS NOT ABLE TO DO A MIRACLE...”

Verse 5 is not saying that Jesus’ ability to perform a miracle was snuffed out, but knowing their hearts, He knew that their minds were made up.

- Jesus performed miracles through compassion **to point to His divinity and His offer of salvation, not as a performance.**

SENT OUT (MARK 6:7–13)

MODEL OF DISCIPLESHIP

The Gospel of John records Jesus saying, “**As the Father has sent me, I also send you**” (John 20:21).

- Jesus sends His disciples (us) out to do the same things He came to do. Jesus **modeled** proclaiming freedom to those in captivity for His disciples and **worked with them, watching them** do these things. Then, He ultimately **left it in the hands of His disciples to do** (Matthew 28:18–20).

INSTRUCTION AND PROVISION

Jesus gave the 12 specific instructions, sending them out in pairs (Ecclesiastes 4:9–12) with authority given to them over unclean spirits.

- They were not to take food, money, or extra clothing with them. They were to be **completely dependent on God and the hospitality of others** for food and shelter as they traveled.

WE ARE ALL CALLED TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Jesus did not call all His followers to this level of sacrifice, but He did require it of some.

- Though we are all called to sacrifice for the sake of the gospel, the level of sacrifice may vary. We must be careful not to enter into sacrifices that God is not calling us to make, but we should **be obedient when a call comes and depend on Him to provide.**

MORE INSTRUCTIONS

Jesus instructed the 12 to recognize and show appreciation for people’s hospitality and receptiveness by remaining with them while in the area.

- If someone was not welcoming or receptive to the message, then the disciples were to “**shake the dust off [their] feet as a testimony against them.**”

“AS A TESTIMONY AGAINST THEM”

The Jews considered Gentile areas to be defiled and unclean, so upon leaving they would shake the dust off their feet to indicate **they wanted no fellowship with even the dirt of those areas**.

- The messenger is **not responsible for how people respond to the message of repentance**. To refuse justifies God’s judgment and keeps us out of future fellowship with His people.

CONTINUING ON MISSION

The job of the 12 was to proclaim the gospel, but the receptiveness of those who heard the message was not their responsibility.

- Our responsibility is to **fulfill the Great Commission**. Some people will reject the message we proclaim, but **that should not hinder us from going forward and continuing to share the gospel.**

THE DEATH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST (MARK 6:14–29)

MISSING WHO JESUS REALLY IS

Some thought Jesus was **Elijah** because it was prophesied that Elijah would come before the Messiah (Malachi 4:5), while others thought He was **the prophet** Moses said would come after him (Deuteronomy 18:15). **Herod was fearful that Jesus was John the Baptist back from the dead.**

- It is hard to see clearly who Jesus is when we are in willful sin and rebellion.**

JOHN IS IMPRISONED ON ACCOUNT OF HERODIAS

Herod had John the Baptist imprisoned for rebuking him for marrying his brother’s wife, Herodias.

- Herod did not want to kill John **out of fear of the multitude’s reaction**. He was also **fascinated by John, recognizing him as a righteous man who spoke the truth**. However, his **respect for John never led to following John’s counsel**.

HERODIAS WAITS FOR THE CHANCE TO STRIKE

Herodias waited for the opportune time to move against John. With hatred in her heart, she found the moment she had been waiting for at Herod’s birthday.

- At this banquet in front of **nobles, military commanders, and prominent men of Galilee, Herodias used her own daughter to get what she wanted.**

PAWNS IN A SICK GAME

Herod was seduced into granting whatever Herodias’s daughter asked for. He was **bound by an oath** to follow through with any request. To not do so would bring **great shame to him in front of his guests**.

- Herodias’s quick response to her daughter’s question might show **she had not prepared her for such a gruesome request**.

WAS THE DAUGHTER AN INNOCENT PAWN?

Herodias’s daughter was not innocent. Though this was orchestrated by her mom, she went along with it. Plus, **her mother’s cruelty was mirrored in her two additional requests**.

- Herodias’s daughter added that **John’s death should take place immediately and his head be brought to her on a platter**.

CONTRASTING KINGS

Jesus never gave in to the crowds by giving them what they wanted. He was not concerned with “saving face” in front of others.

- Herod could have **responded to John’s rebuke** with repentance, and he **did not have to grant this bloody request**. Yet, he granted Salome’s request, and **John’s head was given to her and then to her mother**.

“HE WAS AMAZED...”

- Mark 6:6 says that Jesus was **amazed at the unbelief** of those in Nazareth who heard Him in the synagogue.
- Luke 7:9 says that Jesus was **amazed by the faith** of the Roman Centurion.
- These are the only two times we see the word “amazed” attributed to Jesus. **Will He be amazed at our faith or our unbelief?**

“ISN’T THIS THE CARPENTER...?”

- The word used for “carpenter” is used for someone who works in wood, stone, and metal. **It has the idea of a “builder.”**
- The Creator God chose to be born in flesh as a carpenter when He could have chosen any profession in the world.
- We are the “material” the “builder” has **the power to shape, mold, and reshape, if needed**.
- Isaiah 64:8
- As a “builder,” He knows **how to build our lives, and we can trust He will finish the job**.
- A “builder” **sees the potential in raw materials**. He can take a stone or log and **make something from it**.
- A “builder” is **patient as the finished product takes shape**. He **takes the time to shape raw materials into something useful and beautiful**.