

Mark Chapter 10

V: 1 Leaving Capernaum and heading towards, moving in the direction of Jerusalem.

- Making His way along the “farther side” of the Jordan, meaning the other side or East side of the river.
- Many people resorted / gathered to Him – as He was “wont” – as He was accustomed to or as was His manner.
- So He taught them, He loved being around people and He loves teaching us.

1 John 4:19-20 “¹⁹We love Him, because He first loved us. ²⁰If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?”

- Our God is a people person, our Shepherd loves His sheep! This is all part of His ministry, teaching, preaching, and healing.

V: 2 The Pharisees came to Jesus with a question about divorce.

- They were tempting, testing Jesus.
- They specifically came to Him with a difficult question, a controversial question, and a divisive question. No matter what answer He gave, someone would be offended.
- The issues of marriage, divorce, re-marriage aren't always simple; which is exactly why the Pharisees brought this question.
- They travelled out to confront Jesus, the question they ask Him is about marriage, divorce, and re-marriage. They were East of the Jordan, Trans Jordan, the jurisdiction of Herod Antipas – who killed John the Baptist for the same teaching...
- They were trying to pit Jesus against Moses and the law, but their intent wasn't just to entrap Jesus, it was to kill Him.
- The trans-Jordan area that Jesus was traveling was ruled or governed by Herod Antipas, who had previously killed John the Baptist in Mk. 6. They were hoping that the discussion about divorce would again provoke Herod into killing Jesus.
- As Jesus brought out we need to examine scripture and to consider the whole counsel of God in these matters.

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 “¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. ¹³Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

The subject is divorce, and this applies to us when we consider that divorce amongst “believers” occurs at the same rate at the rest of the world – 50% of Christian marriages end in divorce.

Matthew 19:3-9 Composite picture / parallel passage:

“³... for every cause...”

- The Pharisees were divided into 2 camps regarding divorce.
 1. School of **Shammai** – conservatives.
 2. School of **Hillel** – liberals.

1. **Shammai** (conservatives) took **Deuteronomy 24:1-4** literally, could only divorce based on “un-cleanness” which was interpreted narrowly as adultery, which in turn required a written certificate.

Deuteronomy 24:1-4 “¹When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. ²And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man’s wife. ³And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife; ⁴her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for this is abomination before the Lord: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.”

2. **Hillel** (liberals) took “uncleanness” to also include poor cooking, appearance, or being displeasing in a wide variety of ways, including by comparison. If the husband saw a “more virtuous” woman, his current wife could become unclean by comparison.
 - No certificate was required, simply stating “I divorce you” 3 times was sufficient, then show her the door.
 - Divorce then as now was done for many frivolous reasons. (No fault divorce)

- The most common cause for divorce today is over financial issues; “irreconcilable differences.”
- (Not to trivialize, but...) When my kids were 3, 4, 5, or six they often had “irreconcilable differences” – in other words they weren’t able to reconcile themselves.
- Let me tell you, Grace and I reconciled them, we reconciled them good.
- To this day they are still brothers and sister.
- How were they reconciled, a “higher power” intervened & they submitted.
- As we submit ourselves to God, He will reconcile us to whoever we’re at odds with.
- The distinctions between the Jews and the cultures all around them, just like Christians and secular society today, at least based on the divorce rate, seems to have diminished greatly.
- According to Jesus, the only valid reason for divorce is Adultery / fornication. It wasn’t mandated, jut permitted.
- 273.5 = husband driving his wife away by force, in effect divorcing her away without cause / “separation.”

V: 3 *“What did Moses command you?”* – What does God’s word say about this?

2 Peter 1:2-3 *“²Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, ³according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue.”*

V: 4 Moses “suffered” – permitted, allowed, them to divorce.

V: 5 Because of the hardness of your heart, Moses allowed this, not that it was the first or best option.

Hebrews 12:15 *“Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.”*

Romans 13:14 *“But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.”*

- Moses didn’t “command” – he permitted because of the hardness of their hearts.

- Original decree for adultery was death by stoning.

Leviticus 20:10, Deuteronomy 22:22

- Why capital punishment?
 1. Warning / deterrent for others.
 2. Mercy – freedom for the innocent party. Till death do they part. **Rom. 7:1-3**

Romans 7:1-3 “¹Know ye not, brethren, for I speak to them that know the law, how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? ²For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. ³So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from the law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.”

(Describes the Law – Justice, mercy & truth came through Jesus)

V: 6-8 God's design and His intent are different than what was being practiced.

- God's intent was that a man would leave his father and mother, cleave unto his wife; that they would no longer be two individuals, but one in body, soul, and spirit.
- God's intent was that once joined, they would never be separated.
- **Why?** Because the marriage relationship is a model of our relationship with Christ as His bride, and that relationship is eternal, it is never ending.

Ephesians 5:21-33 Turn to / read:

V: 9 “*What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.*”

- According to Jesus, the only valid reason for divorce is Adultery / fornication.

Matthew 19:9 “And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doeth commit adultery.”

God hates divorce

Malachi 2:11-16 “¹¹Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the Lord which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god. (Spiritual whoredom / adultery) ¹²The Lord will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar

(knowing the word of God), out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the Lord of hosts (priests). ¹³And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand. ¹⁴Yet ye say, wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. ¹⁵And did not He make one? Yet had He the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That He might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. ¹⁶For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that He hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the Lord of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.”

1 Corinthians 7:10-11 ¹⁰And unto the married I command, yet not I but the Lord, let not the wife depart from her husband: ¹¹But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.”

V: 10 The disciples want clarification and right understanding.

V: 11-12 Jesus speaks very clearly:

- If anyone divorces their spouse other than for adultery, and they re-marry; then they are living in adultery.
- There are many scriptures that deal with those living in adultery; that they will not inherit the kingdom of Heaven.

John 1:17 “For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

John 8:1-11 (woman caught in adultery)
“... neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more.” (Repent)

- **Divorce is not the unpardonable sin** – but there are repercussions and added requirements.

Mark 8:34 “... whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”

- Being willing to live a life of celibacy or being single for the rest of one’s life.

Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”

Proverbs 28:16 “He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but who so walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.”

Matthew 7:21-23 ²¹“Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven. ²²Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? ²³And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity.”

V: 13 Next topic after divorce is children.

Luke 18:15 “And they brought unto him also infants, that He would touch them: but when His disciples saw it, they rebuked them.”

- “they” is a masculine word in the Greek meaning the men brought the children.

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 ⁴“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one LORD: ⁵And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. ⁶And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: ⁷And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”

- Fathers were and are responsible for teaching their children about the Lord, and they are particularly responsible for not just teaching it, but living it as an example.
- The word rebuked is also translated as “forbid” – meaning they were turned away.
- The disciples thought they were doing the right thing, protecting Jesus – screening His calls, but Jesus didn’t allow them to do that.

V: 14-15 Jesus corrected His disciples, reversing them and making it a point for the children to be able to come to Him.

- Paradox: a seemingly contradictory or absurd statement that expresses a possible truth.
- Child like faith / role models.

Matthew 18:2-4 ²“And Jesus called a little child unto Him, and set him in the midst of them, ³and said, verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” (humble = obedient)

1 Peter 2:1-2 “¹Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking, ²as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby ,”

V: 16 Jesus was probably tired & hungry, but still had time for kids, time to bless them; living out **Mark 8:34**.

Isaiah 40:11 “He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.”

V: 17-25 Rich young ruler: Parallel accounts **Matthew 19:16-22, Luke 18:18-25**

V: 17 Our account in Mark tells us he was rich. Matthew adds that he was young, and Luke says he was a ruler.

- You would think that being young, rich, and being in charge as a ruler that he would be pretty happy – pretty content or should be, yet he wasn't he knew he needed something more, he wasn't satisfied, which is why he came to Jesus.
- This account records the only time someone knelt before Jesus and went away sad and empty, everyone else that did so was ministered to.

“Good Master” He knows something about Jesus and he approaches Jesus reverentially.

- What must I do to inherit eternal life?

John 6:28-29 “²⁸Then they said to Him, what shall we do, that we might work the works of God? ²⁹Jesus answered and said unto them, this is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent.”

- *“What can I do to earn as in work for my salvation?”*

Ephesians 2:8-9 “⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.”

V: 18 *“Good master / teacher”*, reverence, only God is good.

Romans 3:10 “As it is written, there is none righteous, no not one;”

- Just so we understand each other – “there is only One who is good – and that is Me.”
- This young man seemingly understands who he is talking to which makes the outcome all the more sad.

V: 19 Jesus points him to the Law – the path of conviction.

Romans 3:20 “Therefore by the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

Galatians 3:24 “Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”

- Notice that Jesus referred to specific commandments: the 2nd table dealing with our earthly relationships.

V: 20 The young man said basically that he has been doing that since his childhood, that he had kept the law in that regard.

V: 21 The interesting part is that Jesus doesn't contradict this. He doesn't kneel down and start writing in the dirt or start asking him about specific incidents, it just says that Jesus loved him.

- He missed the sermon on the mount.

Psalms 139:23-24 “²³Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; ²⁴and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

- This young man is thinking that he has somehow fulfilled the law on one hand, yet he knows in his heart that something is not quite right, which is why he is even asking the question.
- As Jesus begins to respond we need to remember that Jesus synopsized the 10 commandments down to two basic rules:

Matthew 22:37-40 “³⁷Jesus said unto him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. ³⁸This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

- Jesus says basically there is one thing you have yet to do, one thing remains: love your neighbor as yourself; sell your stuff, give it to the poor and follow Me.
- Jesus wasn't demanding an offering, he wasn't presenting a “religious” requirement.
- Jesus was helping him to see that his stuff had a greater hold upon him than his love for Jesus and for his desire to be right with God, or even to have eternal life.
- As far as this young man knew, he was being sincere.

- Philippino's catching monkeys with an orange in a gourd tied to a tree.

Mark 8:36-37 “³⁶For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? ³⁷Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

V: 22 Jesus brought this young man to a place of truth and self-realization.

Matthew 6:21 “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Matthew 6:24 “No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”

V: 23-24 Where is our faith? In Jesus or a bank account, where is our heart.

1 John 2:15-17 “¹⁵Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

1 Timothy 6:6; 9-10 “⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain”

“⁹But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. ¹⁰For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

- Money is a marvelous servant but a terrible master.
- The paradox here is that to truly be rich, you must be poor:

Matthew 5:3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

V: 25 Or for a poor man for that matter!

- The bottom line is that neither a rich man nor a poor man can get to heaven on their own, it is impossible, like literally trying to thread a camel through the eye of a needle – apart from Jesus.

John 14:6 “I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by Me.”

V: 26-27 The Apostles were astonished at this teaching, they viewed riches as a blessing from God; a reward for righteous living.

- The religious leaders taught that the closer to God you were, the more prosperous you would be. Sounds familiar doesn't it? "Prosperity theology" is still a lie from the pit of hell.

Matthew 5:20 "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven."

- Who can be saved?

Romans 10:13 "For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

- Ours is the God of the impossible!

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

V: 28 When Jesus called His disciples they each just left what they were doing and followed Him. James & John left their father Zebedee standing in the boat, Matthew walked away from his collection table, Peter brought his boat to shore and walked away from it.

Luke 5:11 "So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him."

- I see a childlike, un-abashedness in Peter's question: and what I would read into Jesus' response – Jesus loved him!

V: 29-30 God will not be a debtor to man!

1 John 3:2 "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doeth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as he is."

Jim Eliot: "He is no fool who would give up what he can't keep to gain that which can never be taken away."

- Brothers / sisters – fellowship – holidays.

V: 31 Paradox: first shall be last, last shall be first.

- Surprises ahead.
- God's economy works differently than ours.

Isaiah 55:8-9 “⁸For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

V: 32 Jesus and His disciples are on the road to Jerusalem; this is that final journey that will end at the cross.

Hebrews 12:2 “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

- They were amazed, knowing the hatred and animosity of the Pharisees, the Scribes, the Sadducees, and the Herodians – plenty of reasons to avoid high profile appearances in public.
- Jesus went before them: There is a boldness in Jesus, an intensity and purpose of spirit – this is His mission.

[Jesus is on His way to the cross:](#)

Luke 9:51 “And it came to pass, when the time was come that He should be received up, He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem.”

- Jesus leads His flock; goats are driven and for the most part will not be led. Sheep however are led by the shepherd.

John 10:27 “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me:”

- Where is Jesus leading His sheep: to a difficult place, He’s leading them to the cross.
- Walking with Jesus often leads us to difficult places and it’s only at the cross that we understand why, that it makes sense.

Galatians 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”

Romans 6:4-5 “⁴Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection.”

- As the disciples followed Jesus, they weren’t just amazed at His boldness, they were afraid as well. Possibly nervous about the potential clash that would inevitably come from such boldness, possibly afraid that Jesus word would come true about the crucifixion.

- Later when the disciples abandoned Jesus at the Garden of Gethsemane it may not have been just a sudden panic that overtook them, but a longer process of slow dread as the reality of Jesus words unfolded before their eyes.
- Jesus again explains what is going to happen:

V: 33-34 Jesus explains what is about to happen and at the same time is giving them a short term prophecy – which is actually based on prophecies recorded up to 1,200 years prior to Jesus telling of them.

Isaiah 46:9-10 “⁹Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like Me. ¹⁰Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.”

- Jesus lays out specific things about what will take place:
 1. Delivered to the chief priests and scribes.
 2. He shall be condemned to death.
 3. He shall be delivered to the Gentiles.
 4. They shall mock Him.
 5. They shall spit upon Him.
 6. They shall kill Him.
 7. The 3rd day He shall rise again.

Peter would later declare:

Acts 2:23 “Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.”

V: 35-40 James & John make their request.

V: 35 **Matthew 20:20** records that they had Salome, their mother spoke for them.

V: 36-37 Grant to us that we may sit on your right and on your left in your kingdom.

- A bold request.
- They are seemingly ignoring two things.
 1. Jesus has just told them He is going to be crucified, which doesn't seem to impact on their desire or request, perhaps they don't understand and assume that He's going to Jerusalem to assume the throne in an earthly kingdom.
 2. Jesus just taught them that the first shall be last and the last shall be first. Perhaps they should have been asking to be the foot washers in His kingdom!

V: 38 “You don’t know what you’re asking” – you haven’t thought this through.

- This cup = death, the baptism = the suffering.
- Sincere, but ignorant, they think they can.

Romans 7:18 “In us dwells no good thing...”

- I wonder what they were thinking when they saw Him being scourged and later crucified.
 1. Jesus tells them - “You don’t know what you’re asking...”
 2. “Are you able to drink this cup?”
 3. “Are you able to receive this baptism?”
 4. “Do you love Me?”

Psalms 139:23-24 ²³“Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: ²⁴and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

- So often Jesus would ask a piercing question; intended to bring us to an understanding of who we are and what we really are.

Psalms 52:6 “Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.”

He brings us to that place where:

Psalms 62:6 “He only is my rock and my salvation: He is my defense; I shall not be moved.”

V: 39 “*They said unto Him, we can.*”

“You shall indeed drink of my cup (death) and be baptized with My baptism (suffering).”

- 10 years later James was put to death by the Sword. **Acts 12:2**
- John would later be persecuted and exiled to Patmos.
- It would be said that James died a martyr’s death, and John lived a martyr’s life.

2 Timothy 3:12 “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”

- Suffering with Christ also means rejoicing with Him later.

Romans 8:16-17 ¹⁶“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: ¹⁷and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together.”

Philippians 3:10 “That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death.”

V: 40 While salvation is a gift from God, it is God’s Grace towards us, specifically not of works. The rewards in Heaven are in some ways a result of our attitude and behavior here on earth - appointed by God, but not on a worldly standard.

- In this we see the functional hierarchy of the Trinity; the Son being submitted to the Father.

V: 41 When the others heard about it they were upset, possibly because they didn’t think of it sooner, that they had been beaten to the punch.

Philippians 2:3-5 “³Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. ⁴Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. ⁵Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.”

V: 42-45 Jesus gathers His disciples for more instruction that is applicable for the moment:

- Don’t do it the “pagan” way.

Psalms 1:1 “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.”

V: 43 “Minister” = “servant” (G-1249) diakonos, dee-ak'-on-os; an attendant, a waiter (at table or in other menial duties); servant.

1 Peter 5:2-4 “²Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; nor for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; ³Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. ⁴And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.”

V: 44 Again God’s economy, God’s order of things: first – last & last – first.

- “Servant” (G-1401) doulos, doo'-los = “bond servant” / “slave” – willingly so.

V: 45 Following the example that Jesus set for us, coming to serve rather than to be served.

V: 46-52 Blind Bartimaeus:

V: 46 Jericho / location – checkpoint.

- Contradiction with **Luke 18:35?** (near to to Jericho) No.
- Jericho in Jesus' time was 3 miles south of the Jericho of Joshua's time. It became upper and lower Jericho. When leaving the one you could be entering the other. This information came via the result of recent archeological discoveries.
- According to Matthew there were two blind men, but Bartimaeus's testimony stands out here in Mark.

V: 47 When he heard that Jesus was coming he began to cry out:

- “Cried out” – Greek = “crazo”, as a woman in childbirth, **Desperate, Unguarded, and Loud!**
- Matthew's account records: “Oh Lord” (Kyrios, supreme Lord, NT equivalent to Jehovah), combined with “Son of David” – exactly correct!

V: 48 The rest of the crowd tried to silence him. Not unlike our culture and society today.

- But he cried out all the more – he ignored them!

2 Timothy 1:12 “... nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.”

V: 49-50 Jesus stood still and had the blind man come to Him: He followed Jesus' voice – the word of God led him to Jesus!

2 Corinthians 5:7 “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

Hebrews 11:6 “... but without faith it is impossible to please Him.”

- To have their eyes truly opened, they had to have faith, they had to walk by faith!
- Casting aside their garments: they didn't come to Jesus based on their righteousness, but on His.
- They came naked, destitute, and humble:

Matthew 5:3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

V: 51 Open our eyes Lord, give us sight!

- They first saw Jesus with the eyes of their heart, then they saw Him face to face.

1 Corinthians 13:12 “For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.”

V: 52 Jesus had compassion:

Matthew 20:34 “So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.”

- “Jesus said”: God’s Word brought sight to the blind!

Psalms 119: 18 “Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”

- Once their eyes were opened, they saw the truth – and they followed Jesus!