



Life Group Questions

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Scripture: Mark 14:53-65 – Jesus before the Council

Earlier in the Mark series, we said that Jesus was the Strong Man (Mark 3:27) who entered the Enemy's stronghold, bound him, and took back what the Enemy captured and stole. That picture presents Jesus as the conquering hero, the Savior, the Messiah – Christus Victor. It plays upon the cultural concept of a Gospel as a formal proclamation where the conquering hero ...

1. Entered hostile territory
 2. Confronted the Enemy
 3. Beat him
 4. Took back what was stolen
 5. Returned in Triumph
- How does that fit with Jesus on trial in an apparent loss due to a miscarriage of justice? (Hint: vs. 62)

Jesus predicted this multiple times (Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:34).

- Contrast what "they" will do with what Jesus will do.
- What did Jesus predict that "they" would do? (Mark 10:34)
- What did Jesus predict that He would do? (Mark 10:34)

- What does what Jesus would do say about how the Father views Him [innocent or guilty]?
- How does that connect to what the Father will do for us and how the Father views us?



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- How does this section (Mark 14:53-65) connect with Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14: 32-42)?
- How does that time in prayer prepare him for this? (Hint: "Submission = _____")
- Why did Jesus refuse to answer his accusers? (Mark 14:61)
- When should we answer our accusers? When should we remain silent?
- What's the difference? Where's the line?

Mark often emphasizes Jesus' authority over various elements of Jesus' creation. (See below.)ⁱ

- Who believes that they're in charge in Mark 14:53-65?
- Who is actually in charge? How can we tell? What tells us that?
- What elements demonstrate God's control in our lives despite circumstances that try to persuade us otherwise?

Mark 14:62 - Jesus mentions coming with the clouds of heaven.

- When are some other times in the Gospel of Mark that we have seen the heavens opened?
- How do those instances align with this? What is common between them?
- What do we request when we sing, "Open up the heavens"? What do we ask?
- How does that connect to Midland Free's Vision and Mission?



ⁱ Mark Chapters 1-7: Events

1. **People**

- A. Hailed by The Prophet and Forerunner (1:1-8, 14-15) - SANDALS
- B. Simon, Andrew, James, and John (1:16-20) - NETS
- C. A Tax Collector Called (2:13-17) - \$\$\$
- D. 2-by-2: Jesus sends out the Twelve (6:6-12)

2. **Evil**

- A. Overcomes Temptation by Satan (1:12-13) (Jesus Wins)
- B. Demon Exorcism (Jesus ID'd by a demon) (1:21-28)
- C. "**Legion**" Delivers man from (5:1-20)
- D. The Strong Man Invades Satan's House (3:20-30)

3. **Sickness**

- A. Leper (1:40-45)
- B. Deaf (7:31-37)
- C. Bumping into a woman (her faith) (5:24-34)

4. **Sin**

- A. Controversies (The Law) Sabbath (Fasting, Harvesting, Work) (2:18-3:6)
- B. True purity = on the inside (7:1-22) (Moral Law)
- C. **Forgives Sins** (paralytic lowered) (2:1-12)

5. **Nature**

- A. Calms **the Storm** (4:35-41)
- B. Walks on **Water** (6:45-56)
- C. **Raises** Jairus' Daughter **from the Dead!** (5:21-43)
- D. Feeds the **5,000** (6:30-44)