

Teaching at the Sea of Galilee

Warnings to Scribes and Pharisees

Accused of Madness

Mark 3:20, 21

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Text:

Mark 3:20, 21

20. Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat.

21. When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.”

Commentary:

I. The “house” into which Jesus entered may have been his usual place of residence in Capernaum.

A. This was likely the house owned by Peter and Andrew.

B. Mark 11:29, And Jesus answered and said unto them, I will also ask of you one question, and answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.

II. Jesus had just returned from having preached the Sermon on the Mount.

A. Jesus at this time was very popular.

B. Crowds flocked to him.

III. Jesus and his disciples were so busy they didn’t have time to eat.

A. Jesus on occasion went away to solitary places to rest and pray.

B. Are we ever too busy? What can we do to bring our schedule under control?

IV. When certain friends of Jesus, those closest to Jesus, heard of all the pressure being placed on Jesus, they came to “rescue” him.

A. The word “friends” is translated “family” by some versions and is so understood by some commentators.

B. “To lay hold on” means “to take into custody” or “to take charge of” as by arrest or by a protective guardianship.

C. These well meaning friends were terribly misguided!

V. These “friends” thought Jesus was “beside himself,” crazy or so carried away, involved in his work that he was not “taking care of himself.”

A. People who get this involved with business are admired and said to be real “go getters,” successful.

B. People who get this involved with religion are said to be fanatics.

VI. Who started this rumor that Jesus was “beside himself?”

A. What would we have done if we had heard this rumor about Jesus’ mental health?

B. If you hear “rumors,” what do you do? What should you do?

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Questions

1. Are we ever “too busy?” _____ What can we do to correct this problem? _____

2. When we hear uncomplimentary things, rumors about people, what should we do: _____

3. What were those close to Jesus planning to do when they arrived where Jesus was? _____

4. When has our zeal been misguided? _____

5. Did this crowd care for Jesus or only for themselves? Give reasons for your answer. Do we truly care for Jesus or mostly for ourselves?

Finished exam can be mailed or dropped off at:

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