

**Who, Then, Is This?**

Mark 4:35-5:43

Pastor Taylor Mendoza

Overview: In this passage, Mark wants his readers to see the authority of Jesus Christ. This authority is compassionate, powerful, holy, and supernatural. Mark does this by showcasing Jesus' authority over nature, spiritual evil, and death. Such authority invites our response. It demands that we put our faith in Him and in Him alone. The authority of Jesus, who has the authority over all, is the very authority that sustains our souls in all circumstances. In such a truth, we find the authority of Jesus a sweet teaching.

Exposition:**Authority Over Nature (Mark 4:35-41)****Authority Over Spiritual Evil (5:1-20)****Authority Over Death (5:21-43)****Application:****01. We confess that Jesus is God.****02. We combat fear with faith in Jesus.****03. We obey Jesus by telling others about him.**

Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

1. As you see the authority of Jesus displayed in Mark 4:35-5:43, how does his authority impact your life right now?
2. Are you tempted to treat Jesus merely as a moral example for your life and less of the one whom you worship? How are you tempted to do so?
3. Jesus is displayed as doing everything that God can do. The Psalmists make this clear (Psalms 46:3, 9; 103:2-3; 68:20). Why would this have been so hard for the disciples and the Jews to understand?
4. What role does confession play in the Christian life? (hint: see Romans 10:9; Colossians 1:19-20). What is the connection between the deity of Jesus and salvation?
5. What kind of fear do you most identify with? How does faith in Jesus Christ bring about peace and comfort? (See also 2 Timothy 1:7; Romans 5:1).
 - a. Fear of cowardliness (see Mark 4:40)
 - b. Fear of shame (5:33)
 - c. Fear of the unknown (5:15)
 - d. Fear of the supernatural (5:36, 40)
6. What are the practical steps of evangelism we can pull out of Mark 5:18-20? Name 2-3 people who you know are non-Christians; how can you reach out to them during quarantine?
7. What would it look like for a church to embrace the authority of Jesus by confessing the same faith, combating fear with faith in Jesus, and telling others about His mercy in the lives of its congregants? How could you encourage others to unify around these things?

Resources for Further Reading:

Academic reading: Putting Jesus in His Place: The Case for the Deity of Christ by Robert Bowman and J. Ed Komoszewski (Kregel Publications, 2007)

Devotional reading: A Bright Tomorrow: How to Face the Future Without Fear by Jared Mellinger (New Growth Press, 2018)

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