

A Study of the Christ

Text

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Demoniac in Capernaum Synagogue		1:21-28	4:33-37	
Peter's mother-in-law healed	8:14-17	1:29-31	4:38-39	
Many healed at sunset		1:32-34	4:40-41	
Disciples seek Jesus		1:35-38	4:42-43	
Jesus preaches in Synagogues	4:23-25	1:39	4:44	
Jesus preaches from Simon's boat			5:1-3	
Miraculous catch of fish			5:4-11	
Jesus heals a leper	8:2-4	10:40-45	5:12-16	
Jesus cures a paralytic	9:2-8	2:1-12	5:17-26	

Overriding Principles

- When we see the Man that could only be God, we are undone and overtaken by amazement!
- The personal and the powerful character of God are both seen in Jesus in the clearest possible light.

Main Point

- But when Peter saw that, he fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man O Lord" (Lk. 5:8)!

Secondary Points of History, Culture, Words, and Grammar

- An important aspect of Jesus' ministry was to establish His authority over Satan and all his forces (**Mk. 1:21-28**; Matt. 8:29; cf. Matt. 12:22-30).
- His miracles were generating considerable public amazement. This aspect of His ministry would recede to the point where after the *Good Confession* of Peter (Matt. 16:13-20), He worked only a very few miracles (**Mk. 1:27**).
- Disease was an indirect result of sin, i.e. its consequences. Jesus' victory over disease showed His power over the consequences of sin even as His casting out

of demons dealt with His power over the one who tempted Eve to sin (**Mk. 8:14-17**).

- Jesus regularly found time to be alone with the Father (**Mk. 1:35**; Lk. 5:16; 6:14; Matt. 14:23).
- The heart of Jesus' mission was to preach and teach (**Mk. 1:38**; cf. Matt. 19:16).
- When we compare **Luke 5:1-11** with Isaiah 6:1-8 some parallels emerge that are of considerable significance.
 - o We must see God before we can truly see ourselves.
 - o When we see our true need, we understand that only God can solve the problem of sin.
 - o When we are forgiven in such a context of understanding, we are thankful and eager to serve.
- The fact that Jesus *touched* a leper was something the leper would have treasured perhaps even more than his being healed (**Matt. 8:2-4**; Lev. 13:45-46; cf. 14:2-9).
- The roofs of many ancient houses were made of dried mud and could have sections rather easily removed (**Mk. 4:4**).
- In most cases, faith can and should be seen (**Mk. 2:5**; cf. Hebrews 11:1-31; Jas. 2:14-26).
- Jesus takes a significant step in His ministry when He demonstrates that He has the power to forgive sins (**Matt. 9:2**).
- The reaction of the scribes was understandable, for who but God can forgive sins (**Mk. 2:7**)?
- The part of the Christ's identity that the Jews had the most difficulty believing was that Jesus was God in the flesh (**Mk. 2:6-8**; Isa. 43:25; Jn. 5:18; Mk. 12:35-37; Jn. 1:14).
- Jesus repeatedly shows His superior wisdom and understanding over His detractors (**Matt. 9:4-8**).
- Jesus was truly an amazing man (**Matt. 9:8**; **Mk. 2:12**; **Lk. 5:26**)!

Relationship to the Church

- The holiness of God needs to be seen in the man Jesus (Col. 2:9).

- We need to have a reverential understanding about what is involved in God being God while we most certainly are not (Ps. 100:1-3).
- We need to be still and find quiet times with God (Ps. 46;10).
- Thankful service is the key to personal and church growth (Jn. 14:15; 23).
- Jesus, in solving the sin problem, solves all other problems we might have.
- As Jesus loved, so we must love (Jn. 13:34-35).
- We are more than conquerors because Jesus conquered Satan and sin (Rom. 8:31-39).
- Our faith must not just be about the words we speak (I Jn 3:18).
- We are to be fishers of men (I Pet. 2:9; 3:15).
- We should continually marvel at the Christ!

Who is Jesus?

- He is the man who conquered Satan and all who serve him.
- He is the *Holy One of God*.
- He has authority over sin.
- He deeply cares for people.
- He is willing to work with us, though we are no worthy.
- He is amazing!
- He cares for me!