HE HAS DONE ALL THINGS WELL

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**TEXT: Mark 7:31-37**

**INTRODUCTION**

This passage from Mark’s Gospel opens with Jesus and His Disciples leaving the Gentile cities of Tyre and Sidon heading back to Galilee

But, Jesus and His men do not go straight back to Capernaum

**v. 31** tells us that they went to **“*Decapolis*”**

If you look at where they were and where they were headed, you would see that it was a roundabout way

Tyre and Sidon were more than 50 miles North-west of the Sea of Galilee

Decapolis was South-East of the Sea of Galilee

What was He doing? We can only speculate …

But I would imagine that He was taking the time to teach and train His Man for the difficult days ahead

When He and His men return, Jesus will find Himself under increasing scrutiny by the Jews

This will be one of the last opportunities that He will have to be alone with His men before He goes to Calvary

It’s also interesting *that* Jesus goes to Decapolis

If you will remember, the people of that region had asked Jesus to leave their country in **Mark 5:17 …**

***“And they … prayed him to depart out of their coasts”***

Jesus had cast a legion of demons out of the Man of Gadara

Those demons had entered into a herd of swine and the pigs ran down the hill into the Lake and drowned

The people of Decapolis had rejected Jesus and forced Him to leave

Now He returns and they receive Him

Why the change? What made the difference?

I believe the answer can be found in [**Mark 5:19, 20**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mk+5%3A19-20) …

***“Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee” “And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel”***

That redeemed demoniac went home and told everyone what Jesus had done for him

He was such an effective witness that the people were eager for Jesus to come back, and when He did, they embraced Him

What a lesson for those who know the Lord

We should be in the business of magnifying Jesus!

By the way, it thrills my heart that Jesus went back!

They rejected Him and He would have been justified had He never returned

But, Jesus came back and gave them a second chance!

Aren't you glad that He didn't write you off the first time you disregarded Him?

I praise the Lord that He keeps on Loving; He keeps on Wooing; He keeps on Drawing; He keeps on Calling

Praise the Lord!

In this passage, Jesus comes to Decapolis and the people bring a deaf man to Jesus for healing

Jesus heals this poor man and the crowds marvel

They saw His power and they were amazed

They said, **“*He hath done all things well*”**

I want to teach on that thought

I want you to see that He still has the power to amaze those who come to Him

Let's watch Him work in this miracle and learn the *lessons* contained here

**~~~Prayer~~~**

First, let’s look at …

**I. THE “MAN’S CONDITION” – v. 32 …**

The Bible tells us that this man was **“*deaf*”**

The word is talking about *someone hard of hearing or unable to hear at all*

It may have been that this man lost his hearing as the result of an injury; or he may have been born deaf

Either way, this poor man couldn’t hear

Not only was he deaf, but he also had a speech impediment

He could talk, but his speech was impaired

These two conditions seem to go hand in hand

Because a deaf person cannot hear themselves, they tend to have trouble verbally as well

(I will say more about his condition in a minute)

While this man's condition is tragic, his verse is a blessing

This man, even though he was handicapped, had people around him that cared about him

They heard that Jesus was passing by and they brought their deaf friend to Jesus

They just believed that the man Who had cast a legion of demons out of the demon processed man could heal this poor handicapped man!

Let me make a few observations about this business of physical handicaps before we move to the next verses

**A. The ‘Heart’**

First, there was something in **the Heart** of Jesus that drew Him to the handicapped

He seemed attracted to people who were often cast aside by others

Jesus spent a lot of time ministering to those with physical infirmities because He had a heart full of love and compassion for their needs

They were the underdogs

I would say that if you want to be like Jesus you should reach out to the handicapped!

(That’s why I pastor this church…Ha-Ha!)

He loved them and ministered to them and we should do the same

At the same time, handicapped people seem to be drawn to Jesus

Do you know why?

It’s because they found an unconditional love and acceptance

They are looking for that kind of love and acceptance

Why? Because society has rejected them for being different

Jesus loves them like they are and so should we!

There are many handicapped people who would love to hear the Gospel,

If someone only cared enough to tell them

**B. Then there’s ‘Heaven’**

Another observation that I see, has to do with **Heaven**

I’m glad to report that there will not be a single handicapped individual in glory!

There will not be a shriveled body, a feeble mind or a paralyzed frame in that glorious land!

Those precious people, who have suffered so much in this world and have trusted Jesus,

Will be delivered forever from their wheelchairs, their crutches, their beds and their Limitations

Their bodies will be made whole and their minds will be renewed!

Praise the Lord!

**C. The ‘Healing’**

A third observation serves to remind us that the physical Healings Jesus performed are but illustrations of what He can do in the spiritual realm

Someone may have a good mind and a healthy body

Someone might not be blind, deaf, crippled, paralyzed or mentally challenged either

But if they are lost, they have a far more serious …

… handicap than any physical handicap ever endured by anyone in the history of the world

If they are lost, they cannot Hear God

They cannot See what He is doing

They cannot Serve Him

They cannot Walk with Him

Their spiritual body is crippled and if they die in that condition, they will be lost forever!

That’s a serious condition to be in!

One of these days the physically and mentally handicapped persons who have trusted Jesus will leave their infirmities behind, forever

They will go to Heaven where they will get new bodies and perfect minds

But, if a person dies without Jesus, they will leave this world and drop off into Hell!

That is far more serious than any physical handicap a person is enduring here!

**THE “MAN’S CONDITION”**

**II. THE “MASTER’S CURE” – vs. 33-35 …**

After the people brought this poor man to Jesus

Jesus does this amazing Miracle a little differently

Let’s look at How Jesus ministered to this man

The first thing we notice is that Jesus **“*took him aside*”**

The crowd expected Jesus to just touch him right there and heal him

But, that’s not what He does / Jesus is a gentleman!

He does not embarrass the man more than he already is

This man is deaf!

He probably has noidea what is going on

First, let’s look at …

**A. The ‘Affliction’**

The deaf will tell you that their Affliction makes them a special class of people

Blindness and most other physical handicaps can be seen by others, and those who see the handicap make special allowance for the handicapped person

But, you can't see that a person is deaf!

Often people will grow impatient with a deaf person because they are having trouble understanding something

Sometimes people treat the deaf like they are less intelligent than others just because they cannot hear

Often, the deaf are embarrassed by their condition and they withdraw themselves rather than face a harsh staring public

Jesus refuses to make a spectacle of this man

Jesus takes him aside and does a great miracle in his life

By taking him aside, Jesus is saying, “*you are more than a problem, you are an individual and you are important to me! I care about you!*”

Thank God for the personal ministry of Jesus!

He doesn't treat people like they are a number

Just look at the ministry of Jesus

He healed many people, but His methods varied from case to case

He touched a leper

He put spit and dirt in a blind man's eye

He made one blind fellow go to a pool and wash his eyes

Others He healed from a distance

Every case was different, but every case merited special attention from the Master!

He may have saved us by the same blood and the same Gospel,

But I guarantee you that He used different methods in each of our lives

I love that about God! / You can't put Him in a box!

He doesn't always work the same way!

But, there is one constant that you can depend on …

Jesus cares for you on a personal level

He will work in your life in a manner unique to you!

You are special to Him and He will honor that special relationship in His dealings with you!

**The ‘Affliction’**

**B. The ‘Affirmation’**

Jesus Affirms Who He is by Healing this Man

**1.** Jesus continues His special ministry in this man's life

He cannot tell the man verbally what He is about to do,

So, Jesus uses a rough form of sign language to communicate His intentions

**v. 33 a – *“and put His fingers into his ears,”***

He lets him know that He is going to do something about his deafness

**v. 33 b – *“and He spit, and touched his tongue;”***

Again, to let him know that He is about to fix his speech

You may think that's gross, but that’s what Jesus did!

It would seem that Jesus is attempting to awaken faith in this man's heart

He is trying to get the man to understand that something is about to happen

And that Jesus is going to bring about the changes

Whatever the reason for His actions, Jesus reaches out and touches this man!

Praise the Lord for the Master's touch!

-- He touched the sick and makes them well!

-- He touched the lepers and made them clean!

-- He touched the dead and made them live!

Jesus wasn't afraid to touch the defiled

He wasn't afraid of being defiled

He knew that sickness and death had to yield to His holiness and power

Praise the Lord for His touch!

When we could not get to Him, He came to us left

He came to our world, lived among us, died on the cross to save us, and He touched us! / Glory to God!

He didn't shy away from our defilement,

But He took our sins upon Himself so that we might be saved

The redeemed are saved, and the lost can be saved,

… Because Jesus is willing to touch us where we are

By the way, if we are going to reach the lost for Jesus, we are going to have to go where they are

We are going to have to touch them where they live

We cannot isolate ourselves from them

We can not be partakers of their sins,

But we must make that vital connection of touch if we are to be effective for Jesus

We need to get off our good intentions, and go to them

**2.** After touching him, Jesus looks to Heaven

This act served two purposes

First, it told the deaf man where the healing was coming from

**v. 34 – *“And looking up to heaven,”***

Jesus was looking to His Father and He was telling this man, via sign language, that his healing was coming from above

Next, this act of looking toward Heaven also demonstrated the Son's dependence upon the Father

Jesus often looked to Heaven for the help He needed

He did it in **John 11:41** at the tomb of Lazarus

Jesus lived a life of close communion with the Father

If you and I are going to be as effective as we can be,

We must also live lives of close communion with the Father

We will be more effective in our lives to others if we live close to the Lord

If you want to be used of the Lord, stay close and stay clean!

Spend time with Him and spend time in His Word

No Prayer, No Power, Little Prayer, Little Power, Much Prayer, Much Power!

Your Spiritual Life will never rise above your Prayer Life

He blesses those who make Him a priority!

**3.** After looking toward Heaven, Jesus **“*sighed*”**

This word means *to groan*

The deaf man could not hear the sigh, but he could see Jesus when He did it and it spoke volume to him

The sigh said “*I care about you and what you are going through!*”

I praise the Lord that we have a Saviour Who cares!

According to **Isaiah 53:3** - He is **“*a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief*”**

According to **Hebrews 4:15** - He is **“*touched with the feeling of our infirmities*”**

He cares about us and what we are facing

**I Peter 5:7 – *“Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you”***

Regardless of what we are facing today, we can find help and hope in Him!

When someone has been in the presence of the Almighty, the harshness of the human experience will become even clearer

The closer we live to the heart of God the more we can feel the heartache of our fellow man!

The secret of compassion is a life of close communion with the heavenly Father!

The closer our communion with Him the more effective our ministry to the world around us!

I pray the Lord will help us develop a heart of compassion that desires to alleviate the needs it sees

**Ill.** One day a little boy came home from school and he looked rather sad. His mother said, “*Honey, is everything all right?*” He said, “*Well, I guess so. But, Billy came to school today and told the class that his daddy had died. They just buried his daddy yesterday, mama.*” Then he said, “*Mama, Billy was so upset about his daddy dying that he just cried and cried.*” His mother said, “*Well, what did you do?*” He said, “*I just laid my head on my desk and cried with him!*”

That is the kind of heart that Jesus had, and that is the kind of heart that we need!

**4.** Then, Jesus said one word, **“*Ephphatha*”**

Which means **“*be opened*”**

When Jesus said this, …

**v. 35 – *“And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain”***

What a miracle!

One command from Jesus and his life changed forever!

That’s the power of the Word of God!

I have seen spiritually deaf ears opened by the Word of God!

I have seen spiritually blind eyes opened by the Word of God!

I have seen spiritually dead people raised to life by the Word of God!

I have seen lives changed by the power of the Word of God!

We need to stop treating the Bible like a Math Book and start reading it has a Love Story

That is what our Saviour can do and He can do that for us today!

**THE “MAN’S CONDITION”**

**THE “MASTER’S CURE”**

**III. THE “MULTITUDE’S CONFESSION” – vs. 36, 37 …**

**A. The ‘Command’**

As soon as He has accomplished the miracle,

Jesus tells the multitudes not to tell anyone else

I believe He does not want to be identified as a Gentile Messiah

**Romans 1:16** tells us that Jesus came to the Jew first and then the Greek

So, He tells them to keep quiet

The tense of the phrase **“*charged them*”** suggests that He kept on commanding them to keep quiet

What a contrast to the way we are today

He told them to tell no one and they told everyone

He commands us to tell everyone and we tell no one!

Like those folks, every child of God should be in the publishing business

We should be spreading the news that Jesus is a life-changing, soul-saving Lord!

That is His command in **Mark 16:15**

That is our obligation of **Matthew 28**

That is what He has equipped us to do in **Acts 1:8**

Jesus did not tell us to witness just when we feel led

He expects us to tell the world about Him

Get up and get at it, you've got a story to tell!

**The ‘Command’**

**B. The ‘Response’**

The Bible tells us that these people were **“*beyond measure astonished*”**

What they saw Jesus do was more than their minds could comprehend

It left them with their mouths hanging open in amazement

They summed up what they felt about Jesus by saying,

**“*He hath done all things well!*”**

That statement was a statement of faith

They looked at all they knew about Jesus and they voiced their approval of Him and His ministry

They considered His miracles and His ministry and they said, **“*He hath done all things well!*”**

**CONCLUSION**

I can echo the words of that multitude in my own heart

He hath done all things well!

I can look back at the past and tell you that He has never failed me!

Even when I was a sinner, He was patiently leading me along to that moment in time when He would save my soul / Praise His name!

Since that day, He has been better to me than I deserve

He has blessed me, used me and let me see His power time and time again!

He hath done all things well!

I look back over the days of my life and I lift my voice in praise to the Lord

As I stand here and look to the future, it gives me confidence to know that He will continue to do all things well

We may not understand all the twists and turns of the road of life

We may wonder why some of the terrible events in life have taken place

We may wonder why people have to get sick and others have to die

We all wonder about many of those things

Right now, some of you have question marks as tall as mountains in your mind over certain events in your life

I can't tell you why life as gone like it has for you

I will venture to say that when you leave this world either by death or the rapture and you stand in His presence in Heaven, you will look back over the days of your life and you will say, **“*He hath done all things well!*”**

And, when you stand before Him in glory, your voice will join the chorus of all the saints of the ages and together will praise Him for His grace and His goodness and we will shout, “*Well done! Well done! Well done!*”

We will praise Him for His Patient, Loving, Sovereign work in our life!

**He has Done All Things Well!**

**THE “MAN’S CONDITION”**

**THE “MASTER’S CURE”**

**THE “MULTITUDE’S CONFESSION”**