

Jesus' new community takes shape, further rejection

Mark 3:13-35

A. Jesus calls the 12 apostles. The leaders of new Israel: 3:13-19

B. A crowd/Jesus and his disciples/Jesus' family: 3:20-21

A¹. The rejection of the Jerusalem scribes. The leaders of old Israel: 3:22-30

B¹. Jesus' family/a crowd/Jesus and his disciples: 3:31-35



a) They were saying Jesus is possessed: ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons."

b) Their charge is absurd:

Satan: ²³And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?

Kingdom divided: ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

House divided: ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.

Satan: ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end.

c) The right answer: ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

b¹) Their charge is unforgiveable blasphemy:

sins/forgiveness: ²⁸"Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man,

blasphemy: and whatever blasphemies they utter,

blasphemy: ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit

no forgiveness/sins: never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" —

a¹) They said Jesus has an unclean spirit: ³⁰for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."