

Bible/College Class Notes – Prejudice – Lesson 12

Opposition To Jesus - Prejudice

This week we learn how prejudice can blind our eyes to our need of salvation.

... they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, “We never saw it on this fashion (before).” Mark 2 v12

Bible Readings for this week

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Mark 1v1-15 (John recognises Christ as God)	
Monday	Mark 1v16-28 (Christ taught with authority)	
Tuesday	Mark 1v29-45 (Christ performs many miracles)	
Wednesday	Mark 2v1-12 (Yes, only God can forgive sins)	
Thursday	Mark 2v13-29 (The Religious Leaders show prejudice)	
Friday	John 1v1-14 (Those who receive Christ will be blessed)	
Saturday	Psalms 10 (God hears the prayer of the humble)	

Important Lesson for us today: *Prejudice is when we make up our minds about something, or someone, which is not based on reason, fact, or actual experience. The Jewish religious leaders were prejudiced against the Lord Jesus Christ, believing (wrongly) that the Old Testament taught that as Jews they could keep God’s law perfectly, and that God would send a Saviour to make Israel a great nation again. We must be wary that we do not trust in our own prejudices, holding wrong perceptions of Jesus Christ and our own goodness. We must, instead, trust in God’s word alone which teaches us that we are lost sinners and are only real Christians if we respond to His gracious call with repentance, complete faith in His death on Calvary, and follow Him as our LORD and God.*

Hymn 246 – Describing the Saviour’s experience on the cross to save sinners like us:

‘Man of sorrows!’ what a name	Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
For the Son of God, Who came	In my place condemned He stood;
Ruined sinners to reclaim!	Sealed my pardon with His blood;
Hallelujah! What a Saviour!	Hallelujah! What a Saviour!

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet.

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

The Lord Jesus Heals the Paralysed Man at Capernaum.

- **Crowds Flock to Jesus as He Entered Capernaum. Why?**
 - Many were there to be entertained – “What miracle would He do next?”
 - The Scribes and Pharisees - sceptical, prejudiced; out to find fault in Him.
 - A few were open minded - ready to be convinced that He was the Messiah.

What is our attitude to Bible truth, and to the Lord Jesus? Are we open minded?

- **The Determination of the Paralytic Man and his Friends.**
 - Their Determined Faith caused them to overcome the difficulty of bringing this sick man to the Lord, by lowering him through the roof of the house.

How determined are we to come face-to-face with the Saviour? To meet Him?

- **The Lord’s Demonstration that He is God.**
 - All expected a miraculous healing but not the forgiveness of sins!
 - The Jewish Religious Leader’s showed prejudice by rejecting the Lord Jesus as God, and in their sinful thoughts accused Him of blasphemy, thinking **“Who can forgive sins, but God only?”**
 - As God, the Lord knew their evil, secret, inward, and unvoiced prejudices.
 - The Lord said, **“As God the Son, I can either say, ‘Thy sins be forgiven thee’, or ‘Arise and walk.’”** **“AS God, I have power to do both”.**
 - Jesus said, **‘Arise and walk’**, so that even in their prejudice they could see that He could do both – forgive sins and heal the body. **See Mark 2v9,10**
 - The paralysed man - immediately healed – stood up and walked, proving that the Lord Jesus was God. His sins were also forgiven.

- **How did the Crowd and Religious Leaders Respond?**
 - The people, having never seen this before, were amazed and praised God.
 - The Scribes & Pharisees remained in their Prejudice: -
 - Proudly refusing to see the sin in their own hearts.
 - Refusing to accept Christ as the Promised Messiah, the Saviour of Sinners.

See John 1v11. He came unto His own (the Jews), and his own received him not.

- **Ask yourself, “Am I like The Pharisees? Am I Prejudiced against God?”**
 - What are my opinions of the Lord, and of myself? Are they honest and true?
 - We must test all that we believe by what the Lord says in His Word, the Bible. We must be humble - open to believe and obey His truth alone.

Are we prayerfully reading God’s Word to find the truth, and His Salvation?

King David prayed, “O Lord, Thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, Thou understandest my thought afar off”.

Psalms 139 v1-2