



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Mark Sermon Series

Supports Session 3: Questioned

Sermon Title: "Identified" (Mark 3:20-30)

---

### Connection to Session 3

Throughout this Gospel, Mark reveals Jesus's identity as the Son of God. In these verses, Jesus discussed His authority over Satan and His ability to offer forgiveness for sins.

### Introduction/Opening

Word had spread about Jesus and what He was able to do. Specifically, it was known that Jesus could cast out demons. Jesus's family had become concerned over what they had heard said about Him and the scribes were asserting that Jesus was empowered by evil. Jesus would set the record straight: His power was His own.

### Outline

#### 1. Opposition (vv. 20-22)

- a. Jesus and His disciples had begun to attract crowds of followers. In verse 20, Jesus entered a home for a meal. The crowd arrived there, too, making it difficult for Jesus to eat.
- b. Jesus's family, concerned about Him and possibly His safety, set out to intervene in this situation.
- c. Scribes had their own ideas about Jesus and declared that His power must come from Satan. They claimed Jesus was empowered by evil.

#### 2. Authority (vv. 23-27)

- a. Jesus, addressing the scribes' accusation, began with the question, "How can Satan drive out Satan?" (v. 23). If Jesus was driving out demons with Satan's power, then Satan would have been working against himself. It would have been an internal attack.

- b. The scribes' accusation was illogical.
- c. In verse 27, Jesus used a parable to illustrate His teaching. A strong man's house could only be attacked if the owner had first been tied up or otherwise bound. Jesus, having all authority, could bind Satan and then drive out the demons.
- d. Satan was not (and is not) more powerful than Jesus. Jesus holds all authority and power, which is how He was able to drive out demons.

### 3. Power (vv. 28-30)

- a. Jesus called out the scribes for attributing God's power to Satan. Jesus, with the power of the Holy Spirit, was fully equipped to cast out demons. The scribes were failing to acknowledge Jesus's power.
- b. Jesus declared that all who sin can receive forgiveness, but blasphemy of the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. This is the continual denial or rejection of God's power, characterized by a lack of repentance. Without repentance, forgiveness is impossible.
- c. An eternal sin is one with eternal consequences.
- d. Jesus not only holds the power to cast out demons, but He is also able to offer forgiveness to one who is repentant of sin.

### Conclusion

Jesus's earthly ministry had begun to draw crowds and opposition. Still, Mark's Gospel reveals Jesus's identity as One with authority to cast out demons and offer forgiveness. However, one must be repentant to experience the forgiveness He offers.

*Ken and Welda Cox live in New Boston, Texas. In 2012 Ken retired from First Baptist Church after 20 years of service. Ken has been active in prison ministry since 1995 and presently serves as interim pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Omaha, Texas. Ken and Welda have six children and nine grandchildren.*

*All Scripture quotations are taken from the Christian Standard Bible, Copyright 2020 by Holman Bible Publishers.*