

Mark 6:1-56**Jesus and the people**

Wherever the Lord Jesus went people talked about Him. While some believed Him, others did not. People still have to choose what they think about Jesus.

The people of Nazareth - verses 1-6

These people had known Jesus as He grew up. They were acquainted with His family. Because they could not understand how He could do miracles, they did not believe Him. So He could not do many miracles there.

Day 1 Mark 6:1-6

1. The people were puzzled about Jesus. What were they saying?

2. What was it that stopped Jesus from working in His own village?

Day 2***Mark 6:7-13 - Jesus sends out the disciples***

The Lord Jesus chose His disciples to be with Him (3:14). Now He sent them out to do His work. If we are His disciples, firstly we must be with Him (by praying and reading His Word), then we must go to witness to others about Him. He sent them out in twos so they could help each other. They were to teach everyone who would listen. But if people did not want to listen, they were not to force them.

1. (a) What was the message the disciples preached?

(b) Who else had preached this? Mark 1:4, 14-15

2. Do you think this message is important for us today? Why?

Day 3***Mark 6:14-20 - King Herod's sin***

When King Herod heard about Jesus he was very worried. The reason was he had killed John the Baptist and was afraid he had come back to life. Herod knew God's way. Even although John the Baptist had accused him saying, "You have done wrong to marry your brother's wife," Herod liked to hear John preach God's Word. But however much God's Word may bring us joy, unless we obey it, it doesn't profit us. In the end Herod was caught in Satan's trap. Fearing to be dishonoured before men, he had John killed.

While God allowed John the Baptist to be killed, it was after he had finished the work God gave him to do. Although his life on earth was a short one, he did everything God told him. It does not really matter if our lives are long or short, but it does matter whether or not we obey what God tells us.

1. Who did Herod think Jesus was?

2. Why did Herod's wife hate John?

3. Even though Herod heard John's word gladly? Why did he not benefit from it?

