

He's Out of His Mind

Mark 3:13-35

by Don Falkos

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Jesus went up on a mountainside. He selected twelve men from among his followers to become his apostles, messengers he would send out to teach and to expel evil spirits. He chose Simon (whom he re-named Peter), James and John (the sons of thunder), Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thadaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot.

When Jesus went back to the house where he was staying, so many people gathered that he and his disciples couldn't even find time to eat. When Jesus' family heard about what was happening, they thought, "He's out of his mind." They went to get him, to take him home.

Some experts in the Law who had come from Jerusalem said, "This Jesus expels evil spirits because he's under the control of Beelzebub, the ruler of evil spirits."

But Jesus said, "How can Satan drive out Satan? A kingdom divided against itself is doomed and a disunited household will collapse. So if Satan fights against Satan, Satan cannot survive. You can't rob a strong man's house unless you tie him up first. I assure you, any sin can be forgiven except blasphemy against the Holy Spirit – that can never be forgiven."

While Jesus was speaking, his mother and brothers arrived. They stayed outside, but sent someone in with a message for Jesus, "Your mother and brothers are outside, wanting to see you."

Jesus replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" He looked at the crowd sitting around him and said, "These are my mother and brothers. Anyone who does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."