

# Mark 3:13-35

## APOINT APOSTLES:

Mark 3:13-15 – “And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him.

14 And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach

15 and have authority to cast out demons.”

1. “the mountain” – is the word *oros* which means “mountain” or “hill”.
  - a. Since this is in Galilee by the Sea it is most likely a hill.
  - b. But, it is building on the idea of Moses going up the mountain
  - c. Since “twelve” are chosen by Jesus the imagery places Jesus in the place of God on the Mountain (not Moses) speaking to the 12.
  - d. There are five mountain experiences in Matthew:
    - i. Matthew 5:1 – Teaching the Beatitudes after calling his disciples - “Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside (*oros*) and sat down. His disciples came to him,
    - ii. Matthew 14:23 – After John the Baptists death – “After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone.”
    - iii. Matthew 15:29 (Mark 8:1-8) – Jesus feeds the 4,000 – “Jesus left there and went along the Sea of Galilee. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down.”
    - iv. Mark 9:2 (Matthew 17:1) – “After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them.”
    - v. Matthew 28:16 – “Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.”
2. “Twelve” – a clear substitute for the 12 tribes of Israel the Lord originally intended to use.
  - a. The authority of the Messiah is rebuilding the foundation for the new phase of the kingdom
  - b. Matthew 19:28 – “Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”
  - c. Luke 22:28-30 – ““You are those who have stayed with me in my trials, and I assign to you, as my Father assigned to me, a kingdom, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
3. Of these twelve apostles only five are mentioned again in the book of Mark
4. “Apostles” means “messenger” and refers to one sent with a task or commission to fulfill a responsibility.
  - a. Mark calls the “apostles” here and in 6:30 where it says, “The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught.”
  - b. The purpose for Jesus calling these disciples is:
    - i. That they might be with him – watch, hear, learn, and know Jesus
    - ii. That he might send them out to preach – proclaim the King’s message
    - iii. That they might have authority over Satan – advance the King’s authority

## MISSION OF APOSTLES:

Mark 3:16-19 – **“He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); 17 James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); 18 Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, 19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.**

1. Apostles will:
  - a. Practice Jesus ministry
  - b. Expand Jesus kingdom
2. Apostles are:
  - a. Simon (Peter)
    - i. Peter is always listed first
    - ii. Peter is the representative and spokesperson for the 12
    - iii. Jesus nicknamed Simon “Peter” which means “rock” or “stone”
      1. This is *petros* in the Greek
      2. Jesus would originally not called him *petros* in Greek but used the Aramaic *Kepha* or “Cephas” which also means “rock” or “stone”
    - iv. No reason is given for Jesus naming Peter.
      1. Peter was not always stable in Jesus’ ministry
      2. Peter did become very stable in life
  - b. James son of Zebedee
    - i. Peter, James and John were the inner circle and with Jesus for the raising of Jairus’s daughter, the transfiguration, the garden of Gethsemane
    - ii. James is the first one martyred in Acts 12:1-2 by Herod Agrippa I
  - c. John son of Zebedee, brother of James –
    - i. together they were “Boanerges”, the Sons of Thunder. No reason is given, but may have been the personalities which is demonstrated in Mark 10:35-39
  - d. Andrew – is Peter’s brother and originally a disciple of John the Baptist and heard John say, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” in John 1:29-44
  - e. Philip –
    - i. only mentioned here in Mark.
    - ii. He is from Bethsaida like Peter and Andrew.
    - iii. Introduces Nathanael (or, Bartholomew which means “son of Tolmai”) to Jesus
  - f. Bartholomew (Nathanael) or “Nathanael son of Tolmai”
  - g. Matthew (Levi) whose father was Alphaeus
  - h. Thomas
    - i. Known as Didymus which means “the twin”
    - ii. Only mentioned here in Mark
    - iii. Thomas ministered in the east and reached India
  - i. James the son of Alphaeus
    - i. Could have been Thomas’ brother since both their fathers have the same name
  - j. Thaddaeus (or, Judas son of James)
  - k. Simon the Zealot
    - i. Zealot is *Kananaion* in Greek which comes for an Aramaic term for “zealous one” *quanana*. Neither word have anything to do with Canaan or Canaanite.
    - ii. The “zeal” of Simon could be

1. Religious “zeal” (which they all would have had at some level)
  2. Patriotic zeal which became a political movement manifesting fully in the Jewish wars
- I. Judas Iscariot –
    - i. Iscariot means “man from Kerioth” which would be a town in Judea, but Iscariot is a family name in John 6:71 meaning “Judas the son of Simon Iscariot”
    - ii. Treasurer for the ministry in John 12:6

**CHOSING SIDES - INSIDERS and OUTSIDERS:**

- Outsiders are the cultural insiders: his family and the religious leaders
- Insiders are the cultural outsiders: the apostles and the believing crowds

**Mark 3:20-21 – “Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat.**

**21 And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.”**

**Mark 3:22-27 – “And 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.”**

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

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

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

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

**27 But 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.**

**Mark 3:28-30 – “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter,**

**29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—**

**30 for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”**

**Mark 3:31-35 – “And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him.**

**32 And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.”**

**33 And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?”**

**34 And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers!**

**35 For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.**