

Go Into All the World
Mark 16:9-20
Series: Christ our Focus

1. Introduction:

- a. The Longer ending of Mark has been much debated.
 - i. It is conceivable that the early church added the ending of Mark in order to finish the book. However, their additions are based on the other completed accounts of the synoptic gospels.
- b. There are differences in:
 - i. Grammar and Vocabulary
 - ii. Themes
 - iii. Emphasis
- c. This being said, by the Grace of God, this portion has been included for our study and edification by the Holy Spirit of God.

2. Verses 9-11 – Unbelief

- a. Verse 9 – Mary Magdalene
 - i. Mary is at the tomb overcome by grief.
 - ii. Christ had been good to her and now, he has died alone and abandoned.
 - iii. In the midst of her grief, the awesome presence of Christ appears to her in order to comfort and commission
- b. Verse 10 – Faithful Witness
 - i. Mary obeys and goes to the mournful and disillusioned with the promise of the good news found in the Gospel
- c. Verse 11 – Unbelief –
 - i. The Gospel, throughout the ages, has been a source of much skepticism.
 - ii. It is imperative that we understand that as the people of God, we must be a believing people committed to the cause of Christ.

3. Verses 12-13 – Persistent unbelief

- a. Emmaus – **Luke 24:33-35** And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, (34) saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" (35) Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

- b. It is a sad state when the people of God walk in purposeful defeat and unbelief.
4. Verse 14 – Rebuke
- a. The stinging rebuke of the disciples encompasses so much. Two of the great enemies of the Christian faith is unbelief and Hardness of Heart.
 - b. According to Scripture it is a grievous sin to not belief those that have been sent in the name of the Lord.
 - i. **Acts 17:30-31** The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, (31) because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."
 - ii. **Matthew 10:14-15** And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. (15) Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.
5. Verses 15-16 – The Christian’s Duty
- a. Go into all the World and all of Creation
 - i. The commissioning of the eleven here becomes the commissioning of any that would call themselves a disciple of Christ.
 - ii. The word for all is emphatic and speaks as to the inclusivity of the Kingdom of God
 - iii. Our concern must be for those around us to hear because faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God.
 - b. Belief –
 - i. This belief is not merely a mental ascent but a transformative one.
 - c. Baptized – as a first act of obedience and not salvational.
 - d. Unbelief is the vehicle by which humanity is condemned.
 - i. **John 3:17-19** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (18) Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. (19) And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and

people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.

6. Verse 17-18 – Miraculous signs

- a. These signs were accomplished during the disciple's time and were foundational to the church.
 - i. Look at the ending of verse 20
- b. These promises are not a license for any disciple to act recklessly and to tempt the Lord.

7. Verse 19 – Ascension

- a. The work of Christ and his final victory are punctuated by the fact that the disciples were witnesses to his ascension.

8. Verse 20 – working with them

- a. The gospel is monergistic in that salvation is a sole act of God.
- b. However, the preaching of the gospel is synergistic in that it combines the effort of man with the salvational work of God.
 - i. **Acts 13:47-49** For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." (48) And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. (49) And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region.

9. Benediction –

- a. **1 Corinthians 9:16-17** For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! (17) For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship,