



Daily Reflections

January 10, 2017

Scripture

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus came to Capernaum with his followers,
and on the sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught.
The people were astonished at his teaching,
for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.
In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit;
he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?
Have you come to destroy us?
I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"
Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!"
The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him.
All were amazed and asked one another,
"What is this?
A new teaching with authority.
He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him."
His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.

Our Scripture Reflection

Unique to Mark's Gospel is the fact that after His Baptism, Jesus bursts on the scene teaching, healing, and forgiving sins. People flock to Him. Why? Because of His "exusia" (authority). How our confused and conflicted world needs His authority today. So many people are directionless and are in need of what only Jesus can give: light, direction...Truth.

Food for your Journey

A children's story I read called "The Voyage of the Dawn Treader" had an earth that was flat. Its eastern edge held a fascination for the voyagers, an assortment of children, adults and talking animals traveling together on a ship. The nearer the Dawn Treader got to the eastern edge of the world, the sweeter the sea water became. Soon the travelers were drinking sweet sea water, which made their eyes strong enough to stare directly at the sun.

Seeing God is like that. The more we journey along the pathway of holiness, the more we drink draughts of a life-giving something. Our eyes grow stronger, our vision clearer.

--John White, *The Pathway of Holiness* (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1996), 13-14.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You came to be The Light. Help me to listen and learn Your way so that I can experience true peace. Amen.