They That Were Amazed Of Jesus

By: Keith Welch

Things amaze us all the time. To *amaze* is to "To affect with great wonder; astonish" (American Heritage Dictionary). Therefore, those things that amaze us cause us to be filled with great wonder or astonishment! Jesus left many in amazement through His teaching and working of signs, wonders and miracles. This short article will call our attention to three of the many instances in which folks amazed.

Multitudes Were Amazed

There was a man brought to Jesus who was demon-possessed, blind and mute (Matt. 12:22). People who crossed paths with this man would have seen a man who he himself could not see and a man who could not speak! He was also demon-possessed, something that occurred during the first century, in the days of Christ and the Apostles. However, this man was brought to Jesus, the Great Physician and Jesus "...healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw..." (Matt. 12:23). There were multitudes present "...and all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?" (Matt. 12:22-23). While the multitudes were filled with great wonder or astonishment of this man being made well, if Jesus could do this, what else could He do? Earlier in Matthew 9:12-13, Jesus said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." (Matt. 9:12-13). If Jesus can make the physically ill well, and He can, then surely too can He make the spiritually ill whole!

At A House In Capernaum Were Amazed

In Mark 2:1 we find Jesus in house in Capernaum. The house quickly filled to capacity! While Jesus was preaching, some "....came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying." (Mk. 2:3-4). Jesus spoke to the Paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." (Mk. 2:5). Of course this caused some of the Scribes to reason in their hearts, "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (Mk. 2:6). Jesus responded, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." (Mk. 2:8-11). The paralytic, "Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!" (Mk. 2:12). Jesus is the Son of God, He is God, and the miracles served as confirmation regarding His identity!

At The Tomb Were Amazed

A reading of Mark 16:1-3 reveals, "Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in

the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" When the women arrived at the tomb "...they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away—for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed." (Mk. 16:4-5). The messenger spoke to the women, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. ⁷ But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you." (Mk. 16:6-7). We ought not to be surprised that the women "...went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." (Mk. 16:8). The Lord's resurrection was and is the ultimate "sign" of who Jesus is, confirms His authoritative voice, and that He will be victorious.

May each of us stand amazed of the Lord Jesus! Jesus is our Savior! He bled and died to redeem us from our sins! Jesus made salvation from sin possible for all men! In amazement we must willfully render obedience to God's word! ~KW