MARK 6:1-29

STUDY QUESTIONS

Trott Brook Adult Bible Study
January 17, 2007

1. Why is Jesus not honored in his hometown of Nazareth?

2. How can our familiarity with the families and backgrounds of others prevent us from seeing them as they really are?

3. Examine each of the directives given to the twelve in verses 7-13. How can we apply them to Christian service today?

   a. Go out two by two.

   b. Take no bag, bread, or money.

   c. Do not wear two tunics.

   d. When you enter a house, stay there until your departure.

   e. If you are not received, shake off the dust of the place from your feet.

Parallels in other gospels:

Jesus scorned in Nazareth:
Matt. 13:54-58
Luke 4: 16-30

Sending out the twelve:
Matt. 10
Luke 9:1-6

The death of John the Baptist:
Matt 14:1-12
Luke 9:7-9

Herod Antipas, the Herod of this chapter, was the grandson of Herod the Great, the Herod of the nativity accounts. The family was ethnically Idumaean (Edomite) but had nominally converted to Judaism and were granted kingship over Judea and other nearby regions by the Romans. Herod Antipas had seduced Herodias away from his half brother Philip. This violated the law (Lev 18:16, 20:21) and drew censure from John the Baptist. Herodias found revenge through her daughter Salome, whose name is known from other historical accounts. Herod reappears in Luke 23:6-12. With Jesus as with John, he again demonstrates a shallow curiosity about the things of God but in the end mistreats His emissary to ingratiate himself with others.

4. Verses 14-16 show that Jesus's true identity was a widely debated question in His time. It still is today. What is an example of an erroneous idea and how can you refute it?

5. Herod knows that John is righteous and enjoys hearing him speak, yet he has imprisoned him. Why?

6. Can the practice of sin in our lives interfere with our spiritual progress? How?

7. What does Herod's rash promise in verse 23 say about his character?

Don't forget to read Dig Deeper!