

False Forces

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Mark 3:7-35.

B. This is the introduction to the ruler who serves and the servant who rules.

C. Many flocked to see Jesus.

II. Mark underscores the emptiness and danger of popularity.

III. False and hindering effects when a movement becomes popular.

A. A misunderstanding of Jesus' purpose emphasizing what is secondary—the healing of physical bodies in contrast to the spiritual.

B. An association with demonic forces—Jesus wanted the witness of changed lives and empowered words.

1. The Twelve were called to a personal experience with Jesus.

2. They were sent out with a preaching evangelism.

3. They were give power over the opposition.

C. A claim of working with Satan.

1. Jesus responds that the one opposing Satan's house cannot stand with him.

2. To reject the Holy Spirit is to reject the witness of Christ.

3. When there is a conflict between family and the Word of God, we must follow what God says.

IV. Conclusion: When a movement is popular, we have to be very careful we are listening to the Word of God.

Application questions:

1. Why should popular movements claiming to be Christian be heeded with great care?

2. What does the witness of changed lives and empowered words look like? Explain.

3. When have you seen movements or people emphasizing secondary issues in Christianity over primary ones? What was the problem with this?
