

The Gospel of the King

Who Is Jesus to Me?

⁷ Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a **great crowd** followed, from Galilee and Judea ⁸ and Jerusalem and Idumea and from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him. ⁹ And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, ¹⁰ for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him.

¹¹ And whenever **the unclean spirits** saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God." ¹² And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

¹³ And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. ¹⁴ And he appointed twelve (whom he also named **apostles**) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach ¹⁵ and have authority to cast out demons. ¹⁶ He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); ¹⁷ James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); ¹⁸ Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, ¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

²⁰ Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹ And when **his family** heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."

²² And **the scribes** who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons."

- Mark 3:7-22 (ESV)

Five distinct groups and their unique responses to Jesus:

The crowds:

Attracted by the _____, but largely indifferent to the _____...

Not everything that looks like faith is _____ faith. (See: John 2:23-25)

The demons:

Better _____ ("You are the Son of God!") than the disciples at this point, but doctrine doesn't save.

Jesus rebukes them, silences them, and later will _____ them. (Matthew 8:29, Jude 6)

The Apostles:

_____ chosen ("those whom He desired") from widely differing backgrounds and types, they each leave their "everything" (Matthew 19:27) and follow Him ...

After _____ Jesus for a season, they are _____ on behalf of Jesus.

This is true discipleship ...

His own family:

_____ physically to Jesus than any other group, yet still blind to the reality of who He really is.

Whether out of _____ or in _____ to, the result is the same:

"He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him." (John 1:11)

The Pharisees/**scribes**/religious elite:

Filled with _____ and _____, they refuse to acknowledge the truth about Jesus.

Unable to deny what He has done, they try to _____ and _____ in order to _____ themselves and _____ Him.

My response to Jesus:

"Who do people say that I am?" (Mark 8:27)