

## The Red-Letter Words of Yeshua ~ Part 14

Admittedly, this post contains more background information than **Red-Letter Words**, but I think the background is too necessary not to include it.

### Yeshua Drives Out an Unclean Spirit

*<sup>21</sup> They entered K'far-Nachum, and on Shabbat, Yeshua went into the synagogue and began teaching. <sup>22</sup> They were amazed at the way he taught, for he did not instruct them like the Torah-teachers but as one who had authority Himself.*

**Torah-teachers** (scribes) were not ordained as rabbis; and, therefore, could not introduce new interpretations or make legal judgments. Therefore, the people **were amazed**: **Yeshua** taught like a rabbi and not like a scribe. This was one level of amazement.

The second level of amazement was that He taught **as one who had authority himself**. No rabbi taught or judged against the judgment of his own rabbi. But **Yeshua**, who had no rabbi of His own, appeared to have authority beyond that of any of the rabbis (vv. 23–27). By **Yeshua's** own testimony throughout Yochanan 5–9, and summarized finally at Yochanan 12:44–50, His authority came directly from His Father, **God**.

Finally, in Mark 2:10, **Yeshua** claims, uniquely, that He has the authority to forgive sins. This is the highest **authority given to human beings** (Matt. 9:8), and people **were amazed** at this too (2:12).

*<sup>23</sup> In their synagogue just then was a man with an unclean spirit in him, who shouted, <sup>24</sup> "What do you want with us, Yeshua from Natzeret? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are - the Holy One of God!"*

Mark emphasizes the demons' recognition of **Yeshua** as the one God has set apart for a purpose. This highlights human ignorance of who **Yeshua** is and how fearful evil powers were of Him.

*<sup>25</sup> But Yeshua rebuked the unclean spirit, "**Be quiet and come out of him!**" <sup>26</sup> Throwing the man into a convulsion, it gave a loud shriek and came out of him. <sup>27</sup> They were all so astounded that they began asking each other, "What is this? A new teaching, one with authority behind it! He gives orders even to the unclean spirits, and they obey him!" <sup>28</sup> And the news about him spread quickly through the whole region of the Galil. ~ Mark 1:21-28 (compare Luke 4:31-37).*

**Yeshua's** inaugural exorcism sets off a chain reaction, as those who hear the good news respond to it.

### Healing Others in Capernaum

*<sup>29</sup> They left the synagogue and went with Ya'akov and Yochanan to the home of Shim'on and Andrew. <sup>30</sup> Shim'on's mother-in-law was lying sick with a fever, and they told Yeshua about her. <sup>31</sup> He came, took her by the hand, and lifted her onto her feet. The fever left her, and she began helping them. <sup>32</sup> That evening after sundown, they brought to Yeshua all who were ill or held in the power of demons, <sup>33</sup> and the whole town came crowding around the door. <sup>34</sup> He healed many who were ill with various diseases and expelled many demons, but he did not allow the demons to speak because they knew who he was. ~ Mark 1:29-34 (compare Matt. 8:14-17 and Luke 4:38-41)*

### Yeshua Goes Out to Pray

*<sup>35</sup> Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Yeshua got up, left, went away to a lonely spot, and stayed there praying. <sup>36</sup> But Shim'on and those with him went after him; <sup>37</sup> and when*

*they found him, they said, "Everybody is looking for you." <sup>38</sup> He answered, "Let's go somewhere else - to the other villages around here. I have to proclaim the message there too - in fact, this is why I came out." <sup>39</sup> So he traveled all through the Galil, preaching in their synagogues and expelling demons.* ~ Mark 1:35-39

Our next post will examine **Yeshua's Healing Ministry** and the **Scribes Question His Authority**.