**The Carpenter**

*Mark 6:1-6*

**Introduction**

1. When Jesus walked the earth during His 3-year ministry, He utilized common occupations in stories to illustrate spiritual principles:
   1. Sower (farmer) – **Matthew 13:3**
   2. Shepherd – **John 10:11**
   3. Vinedresser – **John 15:1**
   4. Etc.
   5. However, Jesus was not any of these…
2. **Mark 6:1-6** – Jesus was a carpenter. There are several things to consider about our Lord’s occupation during the “silent years” before His ministry.
3. Born into a Carpenter’s Home
4. Willing Condescension
   1. **Isaiah 9:6-7** – Prophecy concerning the coming of the Messiah.
      1. This was a great expectation.
      2. The Jews viewed the Messiah in a glorious light.
   2. **Matthew 1:1, 16-17** – Matthew’s gospel begins with the genealogy of Jesus to show He was of David’s seed.
      1. This was God’s plan, but it was not glorious in the sense the Jews thought it would be.
      2. **Matthew 13:53-58** – Matthew’s record of our text (Mark 6:1-6) – Joseph was a carpenter, and Jesus was His son.
      3. Jesus was not born in a palace, but a stable **(cf. Luke 2:7**).
      4. He was not born to a king, but a carpenter.
      5. He did not become a soldier, a successful man of wealth, or even trained in the school of the rabbis, but a carpenter like Joseph (**cf. Mark 6:3)**.
   3. Jesus’ fleshly appearance did not reflect His heavenly glory in any way:
      1. **John 17:4-5, 24** – It is Jesus’ desire, expressed in His prayer to the Father, that we believers would behold His glory He had before the world’s foundation.
      2. Peter, James and John were able to witness a foretaste of that glory of which Jesus spoke – **cf. 2 Peter 1:16-18**
      3. HOWEVER, WHILE THERE WAS GLORY TO BEHOLD IN JESUS IN THE FLESH **(cf. John 1:14**), MANY BEHELD NO GLORY – HE WAS MERELY A CARPENTER.
      4. ***“HE HAS NO FORM OR COMELINESS; AND WHEN WE SEE HIM, THERE IS NO BEAUTY THAT WE SHOULD DESIRE HIM” (Isaiah 53:2).***
      5. Because of this, many were offended at Him – **Mark 6:3**
      6. Jesus did this for us – **cf. 2 Corinthians 8:9**
5. Patience, Diligence, Service
   1. Jesus’ condescension to earth as man was willing, and as such He did not complain. He bore His load of humility and grief with grace. From this we can learn.
   2. Jesus lived to be about 33, but His ministry was only about 3 years – other than a short account in Luke of 12-year-old Jesus, those years before His ministry are silent.
      1. For many of those years, no doubt, Jesus sat at the feet of Joseph and learned the trade of carpentry.
      2. As a man, before His time came, Jesus patiently and diligently served through His physical occupation.
   3. **Ecclesiastes 2:22-23** – There is vanity in labor under the sun.
   4. **Ecclesiastes 9:10** – But when we work, we need to do our best, and Jesus understood this.
   5. **Ecclesiastes 3:9-11** – While we toil under the sun, as did Jesus, we must do so patiently, with diligence and service, knowing that something far greater awaits us.
6. Given to a Carpenter’s Work
7. Physical Creation
   1. Like a carpenter, Jesus created. However, unlike a carpenter, Jesus created from nothing.
   2. **Psalm 33:6** – creation by the word of the Lord
      1. **Genesis 1:3** – God said…No part of creation was accomplished without this.
      2. **John 1:1-3** – He was the AGENT of creation – creation was not without Him.
      3. All things are continually maintained by Him **– Hebrews 1:1-2, 10; Colossians 1:16-17**
      4. In His ministry He manifested such creative power (feeding 5,000, wind and waves obey Him, etc.) – HE SHOWED HIMSELF NOT SIMPLY TO BE A CARPENTER, BUT THE VERY WISDOM WHICH FASHIONED THE UNIVERSE – **cf. Proverbs 3:19**
   3. Magnifies His condescension – HE IS CREATOR ASSUMING THE FORM OF CREATION – **Hebrews 2:14a**
   4. THIS WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCOMPLISHING SOMETHING EVEN GREATER THAN THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE.
8. Spiritual Creation
   1. **Hebrews 2:17-18** – In coming to earth as a man, He was able to become the High Priest we needed, and was able to make propitiation for our sins.
   2. We reach the benefits of such in baptism – **Galatians 3:26-27** – into Christ and have put on Christ.
      1. **2 Corinthians 5:17** – IN CHRIST = NEW CREATION
      2. **Romans 6:4** – Newness of life.
      3. **Ephesians 2:10** – created for good works.
   3. **1 Peter 2:4-5** – The great architect (Christ – the carpenter) continues to build this spiritual house.
   4. THIS CREATION JESUS WAS ABLE TO BRING FORTH IS INCREDIBLE – **cf. Ephesians 2:1-3**
      1. We should have the same awe as Paul – **1 Corinthians 15:10**
      2. The skill the carpenter has is unmatched!
   5. AND LET NO PERSON SAY THEY ARE TOO MUCH FOR THE CARPENTER TO CHANGE:
      1. Jesus thinks like a carpenter – SEES PONTENTIAL IN THE MATERIAL (you)
      2. Paul – **cf. 1 Timothy 1:12-14**
      3. John Mark – **Acts 13:13; 15:36-40;** **2 Timothy 4:11** (After leaving Paul and Barnabas on their missionary journey prematurely.)
      4. YOU – **Luke 18:27** (regarding salvation of rich men)
         1. “HIS POW’R CAN MAKE YOU WHAT YOU OUGHT TO BE; HIS BLOOD CAN CLEANSE YOUR HEART AND MAKE YOU FREE; HIS LOVE CAN FILL YOUR SOUL, AND YOU WILL SEE ‘TWAS BEST FOR HIM TO HAVE HIS WAY WITH THEE” (His Way With Thee, Cyrus S. Nusbaum)
9. Heavenly Preparation
   1. **John 14:1-3** – Jesus has gone to prepare a place in heaven for us.
      1. By His redemptive work in entering the Holiest of All with His own blood He has prepared a place for us there.
      2. **(v. 6)** – If we follow Him, and go through Him, we will arrive where He is because He has made these preparations.
   2. **2 Corinthians 4:16-5:8** – The apostle Paul lived with this in mind.
      1. He knew Jesus went to prepare a place for him.
      2. Instead of looking at his earthly tent which was built for a TEMPORARY DWELLING, he looked INWARD to the renewing of his spiritual man.
      3. He knew that Jesus and God had prepared for us to inhabit a SPIRITUAL ETERNAL BODY far greater.
      4. NOTE**: v. 5** – Spirit as guarantee – Jesus said He prepared the place, and the HS revealed such. We can trust that as a down payment.
10. Died a Carpenter’s Death
11. Included in the preparations Jesus told His disciples He was going to make was His very death. A death like no other kind.
12. Prophecy
    1. The Messiah was prophesied to die for the sins of the people. The Jews missed this when they read the prophets.
    2. Not only was He prophesied to die, but His specific death was described.
    3. **Psalm 22:16-18** – Pierced hands and feet, and no broken bones.
       1. This does not describe the usual death of a Jew.
       2. If the Jews were to kill Him according to the Law He would be stoned.
    4. Jesus alluded to this death – **John 3:14-15; 12:32-33**
13. Fulfillment
    1. **John 18:28-32** – The did not seek to kill Him according to Jewish law, but delivered Him into Roman hands for their way of execution.
       1. Ultimately fulfilling prophecy.
       2. The Messiah’s hands and feet would be pierced, and He would be lifted up.
    2. **John 19:17-18** – They crucified Him.
       1. CARPENTER’S DEATH – In the sense of hammer, and nails, and wood.
       2. ***“WHO HIMSELF BORE OUR SINS IN HIS OWN BODY ON THE TREE, THAT WE, HAVING DIED TO SINS, MIGHT LIVE FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS – BY WHOSE STRIPES YOU WERE HEALED” (1 Peter 2:24)***.
       3. ***“CHRIST CRUCIFIED, TO THE JEWS A STUMBLING BLOCK AND TO THE GREEKS FOOLISHNESS” (1 Corinthians 1:23).***
    3. Significance for us – **Deuteronomy 21:23; Galatians 3:10-14**
       1. Jews were under a curse under the OT because they sinned.
       2. They could not be justified by the OT.
       3. Jesus became a curse for them to redeem them from the curse of the Law, which in turn OPENED UP THE WAY FOR THE GENTILES, INCLUDING THEM IN SALVATION.

**Conclusion**

1. Jesus left the glories of heaven to take on flesh. He was a carpenter for the years preceding His ministry.
2. Similar to His earthly trade, Jesus created the universe, and He creates us spiritually. For those He has created spiritually He has prepared a place in God’s abode.
3. The ultimate reason He is able by His creative skill to make us anew, and take us to be with Him and His Father for eternity is because of the horrible death He died – with the same kind of tools He used all those years.
4. Thank God for the Carpenter, Jesus.