

THE WAYS OF GOD

He Could Do No Mighty Works

I. Mark 6:1-6-The will of God is clear, the power of God is present, God wanted to do mighty things there and yet He couldn't

A. Why was Jesus in Nazareth? He was there because God sent Him there

1. *Jn8:28-When you lift up the Son of man then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself (of my own accord)*
2. Jesus just didn't decide to go to Nazareth – That's not how he lived

B. What did God send Jesus there to do? God sent Him to teach, preach and heal

1. *Mt4:23-Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in the synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people – Nazareth was right there in Galilee*
2. If God sent Jesus somewhere it was for those reasons, to teach, to preach and to heal
 - a. Lk4:16-18-He preached in that he was anointed right there in Nazareth; Acts10:37-38-The Word he preached was that He was anointed with the Holy Ghost to do good and heal all that were oppressed of the devil
 - b. To say that it wasn't God's will to do miracles in Nazareth is a lie – That's why He sent Jesus there!

C. Who was doing the works? It was the Father in Jesus who was going to do the works – They were co-laboring

1. *Jn5:19-The Son can do nothing of himself; 30-I can of my own self do nothing; Jn14:10-The Father in me does the works*
2. We are talking about the unlimited, unsurpassed, unmatched power of God was there to do mighty works

D. He COULD do no mighty works there (Could=Able, capable; AMP-He was not able)

1. We have here what I believe is one of the most overlooked phrases in the Bible that if we did look at it, it would give us loads of light and understanding about the ways of God, how God operates and functions
2. God wasn't able; What does that even mean? Isn't He all-powerful? If He is what does this mean that He couldn't
3. For many this phrase that "God couldn't" is akin to blasphemy and most don't even believe this verse
 - a. Most read this verse and believe God could have if He wanted to, but just wouldn't – That's not what it said
 - b. Jesus was there, sent by God, with the power of God and God was ready to do miracles and couldn't
 - c. Are there times when God wants to, but can't?

II. When it says God couldn't it not an issue of power/ability, but an issue of access

A. Revelation 19:6-God is omnipotent and this means He possess unlimited power

1. *Gen18:14-Is there anything that is too hard for the Lord?; Num11:23-Is the Lord's hand waxed short? Is his ability and power inadequate?; Jer32:27-Behold I am the Lord God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for me? Lk1:37-For with God nothing shall be impossible Mt19:26-With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible*
2. We see the power of God in action create this universe, part the red sea, quench the violence of fire, shut the mouths of lions, raise the dead, cause the lame to walk, the dumb to talk, the blind to see, the maimed to be healed

B. There's nothing God cannot do for lack of ability; There's a whole lot he can't do for lack of access

1. God wasn't able b/c He had no access; They were offended (Desert and distrust when you should trust and obey; See in another what you disapprove of and what hinders you from acknowledging their authority)
 - a. Dishonor denies, distrusts, disobeys and deserts and this is what they did to the one God sent
 - b. They don't want to believe what He says, do what He says, or even hear what He says and this shut God out
2. If I went by your bank to put \$500 in your account and couldn't because I didn't have access, that doesn't mean I couldn't because I didn't have the ability; I have the ability, but not the access and w/o the access I'm not able

C. God can want to do something, but not be able to do something for lack of access

1. Is it possible that He wanted to do, but couldn't for lack of access?
2. When people see something not happening, their immediate thought is that God just didn't want to do anything because He's God and if He wanted to He could have – Is that always true? Or is it possible He couldn't?
 - a. Thinking that way raises questions about His nature b/c it leads believing He didn't want to heal/deliver/provide

- b. Many blame God for not doing something and “maybe He couldn’t” never crosses their mind
 - c. When things aren’t happening for people or in people’s lives should we blame God for it, operating under the assumption that He’s God and He could have done something if He wanted to? But is that true?
3. So often for many of my people much of what I want to do I can’t do because they won’t allow me to
- a. Then many people blame God for not doing what they wouldn’t allow Him to do
- D. Most don’t believe this, but instead believe that God is God and if He wants to do something, He’s going to do it and He’ll just barge in and do it and He doesn’t need access from me – This is not His way
- 1. 2Pt3:9-If He was ever going to barge in He would do it and keep people from going to hell
 - a. God doesn’t barge in, He needs access – He set the system up that way
 - b. “If God wanted to do it, then why didn’t He just do it anyway?” – That’s not His way
 - 2. Matt23:37-He wanted to care for them, sustain them, protect them (Would-Will, have in mind, desire)
 - a. *ERV-You kill the prophets. You stone to death those God has sent to you. Many times I wanted to help your people. I wanted to gather them together has a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. But you did not let me; CEV-You wouldn’t let me*
 - 3. Psalm 81:13-16-God was ready to subdue their enemies, turn His hand against their adversaries, feed them with the finest wheat and satisfy them with honey out of a rock, but couldn’t b/c He didn’t have access
 - a. 11-They wouldn’t listen and obey and pay attention to what God said – They didn’t want Him
 - b. 12-God will let you do what you want and won’t barge in and just do what He wants
- E. Anytime God could He did, anytime He didn’t He couldn’t even though He wanted to
- 1. God always does all that He can to help people and sometimes God has done all that He can in terms of access
 - 2. The next verse doesn’t say I helped anyway-*Pr1:24-I tried to help, but you refused to listen. I offered my hand, but you turned away from me.*