

Mark 1:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

Analysis

Mark emphasizes Christ's prayer life with precise timing: 'a great while before day,' demonstrating His priority of communion with the Father before ministry activity. Despite exhausting public ministry, Jesus sought solitude ('solitary place') for prayer, modeling the necessity of spiritual disciplines even for the incarnate Son. His humanity required this fellowship, teaching us our absolute dependence on prayer.

Historical Context

Jewish prayer times were typically morning, afternoon, and evening. Christ's prayer 'a great while before day' indicates extraordinary devotion, likely around 3-4 AM. The Galilean countryside provided natural solitary places—hills, shores, and wilderness areas near Capernaum.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. If Christ in His humanity needed extended time in prayer, how much more do we who are not divine?
2. What does Jesus' prioritization of prayer before ministry teach us about the source of spiritual power?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	πρωΐ	ἐννυχον	λίαν	ἀναστὰς	ἐξῆλθεν	καὶ
And	in the morning	before day	a great while	rising up	he went out	And
G2532	G4404	G1773	G3029	G450	G1831	G2532
ἀπῆλθεν	εἰς	ἐρημον	τόπον	κάκει	προσηύχετο	
departed	into	a solitary	place	and there	prayed	
G565	G1519	G2048	G5117	G2546	G4336	

Additional Cross-References

Luke 6:12 (Prayer): And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

Ephesians 6:18 (Prayer): Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Psalms 5:3 (Prayer): My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

Luke 5:16 (Prayer): And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.

John 6:15 (Parallel theme): When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.

Hebrews 5:7 (Prayer): Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

Matthew 14:23 (Prayer): And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

Philippians 2:5 (Parallel theme): Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

John 4:34 (Parallel theme): Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

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