

Mark 6:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

Analysis

Is not this carpenter son of Mary brother of James Joses Judas Simon are not his sisters here with us and they were offended. Carpenter *tektōn* craftsman builder woodworker. Son of Mary unusual designation normally identified by father. Suggests Joseph deceased. Brother *adelphos* siblings half-brothers through Mary. Names listed James Joses Judas Simon. Sisters plural at least two. Here with us known in community. Were offended *eskandalizonto* scandalized stumbled. Nazareth rejection of Jesus. Familiarity breeds contempt. Those who knew Him as child carpenter could not accept Him as prophet Messiah. Offense at His claims. Nothing special in His background ordinary family trade. How could He be extraordinary. Reformed theology recognizes offense of gospel. Christ came in weakness humility stumbling block to those who desire power majesty. Incarnation scandalous God in human flesh from peasant family.

Historical Context

Tektōn could refer to carpenter stone mason general builder. Jesus likely worked with wood and stone. Trade learned from Joseph continued until age 30 public ministry. Manual labor not shameful Jewish culture rabbis often had trades. Paul tentmaker. Brothers James Jude became church leaders authors of epistles initially unbelievers (John 7:5) converted after resurrection. Mary bore other children after Jesus contrary to perpetual virginity doctrine. Nazareth small village perhaps 400 people. Everyone knew everyone. Jesus grew up here but ministered elsewhere.

Familiarity hindered faith. Prophet not without honor except in own country own house. Early church faced similar issue eyewitnesses who knew Jesus humanly had to recognize His deity. Modern church sometimes overfamiliarizes Jesus makes Him buddy rather than Lord.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What does Nazareth rejection teach about how familiarity can blind people to spiritual truth?
2. How does Jesus humble background as carpenter from peasant family challenge expectations about how God works in world?

Interlinear Text

οὐκ οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ τέκτων ὁ υἱὸς Μαρίας
not this Is the carpenter the son of Mary
G3756 G3778 G2076 G3588 G5045 G3588 G5207 G3137

ἀδελφὸς δὲ Ἰακώβου καὶ Ἰωσῆ καὶ Ἰούδα καὶ Σίμωνος
the brother of James And And of Juda And Simon
G80 G1161 G2385 G2532 G2499 G2532 G2455 G2532 G4613

καὶ οὐκ εἰσὶν αἱ ἀδελφαὶ αὐτῷ ὅδε πρὸς ἡμᾶς καὶ
And not are sisters him here with us And
G2532 G3756 G1526 G3588 G79 G846 G5602 G4314 G2248 G2532

ἐσκανδαλίζοντο ἐν αὐτῷ
they were offended at him
G4624 G1722 G846

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 12:46 (Parallel theme): While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.

John 6:42 (Parallel theme): And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven?

Jude 1:1 (Parallel theme): Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

Matthew 11:6 (Parallel theme): And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

Galatians 1:19 (Parallel theme): But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother.

Acts 1:13 (Parallel theme): And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James.

Mark 15:40 (Parallel theme): There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome;

Isaiah 49:7 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee.

1 Corinthians 1:23 (Parallel theme): But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

John 14:22 (Parallel theme): Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?