

1. Last week I completed the analysis of Mar 1:18 and 19 and when time expired I was about to begin a study of Mar 1:20.
2. Before we resume our study I want to provide an expanded translation of Mar 1:14-19.

**Mar 1:14 And after John the Baptist was put in prison, Jesus came into the province of Galilee, making a public proclamation of the good news of God; Mar 1:15 saying, the time has been fulfilled with the present result that the moment is epochal in its significance, and the kingdom of God is near. It is imperative that each of you change your minds regarding the Christ and immediately believe the good news--the Messiah has arrived.**

**Mar 1:16 Jesus had just left his home there in Capernaum walking along the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee when he saw off in the distance Simon Peter and Andrew casting their nets from side to side; clearly the two men were commercial fishermen.**

**Mar 1:17 And Jesus said unto Andrew and Simon Peter, "Come, after me and I will make you to become fishers of men."**

**Mar 1:18 And immediately the two fishermen, later to become disciples, left their nets to follow him.**

**Mar 1:19 Christ continued walking along the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee when, he saw James, son of Zebedee and his brother John in their boat, repairing their nets.**

3. I want to review some of that learned and then begin new material at point 9 on page 3.

3.1 Jesus was baptized.

3.2 He left John and crossed over the Jordan River.

3.3 He did something over the Jordan (perhaps it was His temptations) and then returned, crossing the Jordan and heading west northwest toward Galilee.

3.4 It was on His return trip that John the Baptist, Andrew and another disciple saw Jesus heading west. It was at this time also that the Baptist exclaimed "Behold the Lamb of God."

3.5 Andrew and the unnamed disciple were disciples of John the Baptist. These two heard John's declaration and were impressed.

3.6 Andrew and the unnamed disciple followed Jesus as he made His way toward Capernaum.

3.7 At Capernaum, Jesus invited the two disciples of John into His home where He taught them.

3.8 It is possible that the unnamed disciple was John, the son of Zebedee. That one was

Andrew is clear but the other is not named. Joh 1:36-42

3.9 Andrew was so impressed he left and found his brother Simon Peter and it was at this meeting Jesus named Simon “the rock.”

3.10 Simon Peter and Andrew were the first disciples to encounter the Christ.

3.11 Their tacit encounter certainly piqued the interest of first Andrew and then Simon Peter.

3.12 Andrew and Peter returned to their homes in Capernaum and resumed their work as commercial fishermen.

3.13 The gospel accounts of Matthew and Mark move us forward to Jesus’ home town of Capernaum on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

3.14 Not long after the two brother’s return to their jobs as commercial fishermen, they were mending their nets when they encountered Jesus walking along the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus said “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. The two left their left their nets, and followed him. Mat 4:18-22

3.15 James and John also encountered the Christ and Mark tells us all four follow Him to the synagogue in Capernaum where they heard Jesus teach.

3.16 The disciplining of the twelve will not take place until much later near Caesarea Philippi on Mount Hermon. Luk 6:12-16

4. Between the first encounter with Jesus on the shores of the Sea of Galilee and the selection of the twelve near Mount Hermon there were numerous events chronicled by Merrill F. Unger in his best selling dictionary *Unger’s Bible Dictionary*.

5. So Jesus saw the two sons of Zebedee not far from where he had seen Andrew and Peter. These two were not out at sea fishing but their boat was anchored some distance offshore; they were sitting in their boat mending their nets.

6. In verse 19 the word for “ship” is not **Ploiarion**, a row boat attached to a large vessel, but **Ploion**, a large fishing boat.

7. In several manuscripts the phrase “and straightway he called them” appears in verse 19 rather than verse 20 since it is part of the sentence earlier begun. We will treat it later as part of Mar 1:20.

8. It suffices simply to note **Kaleo**, parsed in the aorist tense would be a shout since James and John were moored some distance from shore. What we do know, the Lord got their attention and they left Zebedee on board the **Ploion** and followed Jesus.

9. Now let’s see what we can learn from Mar 1:20.

KJV-New Sentence

Mar 1:20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

Και ευθυσ εκαλεσεν αυτους και αφεντες τον πατερα αυτων Ζεβεδαιον εν τω πλοιον μετα τον μισθωτων απηλθον οπισω αυτου.

1. **Kai** is a conjunction used as a simple connective followed by the verb **Kaleo**, parsed as a 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular, aorist active indicative followed by the intensive pronoun **Autos**, declined as an accusative plural. Next we have another **Kai** used once more as a connective and the verb **Aphiemi**, parsed as an aorist active participle and the noun **Pater**, declined as an accusative singular modified by the intensive pronoun **Autos**, declined as a genitive plural of description. Next we have the proper noun **Zebedaios**, declined as an accusative singular and the prepositional phrase **En Ho Ploion**.

Next we have a preposition **Meta** followed by the monadic noun **Misthotos**, declined as a genitive plural and the verb **Apercomai**, parsed as a 3<sup>rd</sup> person plural, aorist active indicative. Lastly we have the preposition **Opiso** followed by the intensive pronoun **Autos**, declined as a genitive singular.

2. Let me give you a literal translation of verse 20.

Literal Translation

And immediately he called them; and leaving the father of them, Zebedee in the vessel with the hired servants they went after him.

3. Christ had just passed Andrew and Peter who were near the shore mending their nets.

4. After going a short distance he sees out at sea James and John on the deck of the large commercial fishing vessel where they along with several others are mending their nets.

5. It seems the Lord also could see Zebedee the father of the boys. From what we have learned elsewhere the business is owned by Zebedee. Let me give you a point or two about Zebedee and his family.

5.1 Zebedee was married to Salome and they had two sons and perhaps several daughters. (Mat 4:21 and Mar 1:19-20 compared with Mat 20:20; Mar 15:40 and 16:1-2)

Mat 4:21 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them.

Mar 1:19 And when he had gone a little farther thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and

John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets.

Mar 1:20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

Mat 20:20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him.

Mar 15:40 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;

Mar 16:1 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.

Mar 16:2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

5.2 Wycliffe has written of Salome as follows:

“One of the women who followed Jesus from Galilee, and who stood afar off witnessing His crucifixion was probably the wife of Zebedee and the mother of James and John.”

Mar 15:40 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;

Mar 15:41 (Who also, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered unto him;) and many other women which came up with him unto Jerusalem.

Mat 27:56 Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's children.

5.3 Comparing the above cited verses with (Joh 19:25-27) makes it probable that Salome was the sister of Mary, the mother of Jesus. The statement by Jesus in verse 27 certainly give indication that Salome was the mother of John the disciple who Jesus loved.

5.3.1 Notice again, what Wycliffe has to say about Joh 19:25-27

"Three women, all named Mary, took their station near the cross, sorrowfully contemplating the one who was so dear to them. The Greek text, however, is rather favorable to the mention of four, the mother's sister (Salome, the mother of John) being noted but left unnamed.

Joh 19:25 Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

Joh 19:26 When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son,"

Joh 19:27 and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

5.4 Most expositors agree that James was the elder brother of John since James is nearly

always named first, e.g., Mar 5:37.

Mar 5:37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James.

6. Zebedee was a commercial fisherman and apparently was quite wealthy. He had a home in Capernaum and many believe his boat or boats were harbored at Bethsaida. Joh 1:44

Joh 1:44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.

6.1 The family had servants or certainly employees assisting the father and his sons as we have just noted in our exegesis of verse Mar 1:21.

6.2 Since Zebedee had hired servants and John was acquainted with the high priest in Jerusalem so that he could enter his house unchallenged on the night of Jesus' betrayal; many have concluded that Zebedee and his sons were prosperous with some degree of social standing.

Joh 18:15 Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard,

Joh 18:16 but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there and brought Peter in.

6.3 It would certainly seem that a business partnership of some sort had been formed between Andrew, Peter, James and John and perhaps Zebedee.

Luk 5:3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

Luk 5:4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

Luk 5:5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

Luk 5:6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.

Luk 5:7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

Luk 5:8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!"

Luk 5:9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken,

Luk 5:10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men."

6.3.1 You may recall the event described by Luke in Luk 5:3-10 was one of the ten listed as taking place between the first encounter of the four fishermen with Christ and the disciplining of the twelve.

6.4 It is quite possible James and John lived at Bethsaida where their boats were moored.

7. The Bible furnishes considerable information about John, at least more than is available for the other Disciples.

8. James and John became members of the "inner three," the specially favored disciples of Christ. Wycliffe has suggested "the reason for their selection was "that they understood more fully the person and work of Jesus' future ministry." I seriously doubt the reasoning of the Wycliffe folks--I believe it was simply Christ deciding these are my 3rd, 4th and 5th hitters and it is best for the team.

8.1 To think otherwise begs the question, "which came first the chicken or the egg?"

8.2 There is no doubt, however, Peter, James and John were the favored "inner three."

Mar 5:35 While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?"

Mar 5:36 Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

Mar 5:37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James.

Mar 9:2 After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them.

Mar 13:3 As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately,

Mar 13:4 "Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?"

Mar 14:33 He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled.

Mar 14:34 "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."

Mar 14:35 Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him.

9. Let me close my abbreviated dossier of the three fisherman with seven bullets concerning the "big three."

- Peter, James and John are named first among the twelve. Mar 3:16-19

Mar 3:16 These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter);

Mar 3:17 James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder);

Mar 3:18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot

Mar 3:19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

- The epithet Boanerges, meaning "sons of thunder," evidently characterized James and John as impetuous and quick to take offense.

Luk 9:54 When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?"

Luk 9:55 But Jesus turned and rebuked them,

Luk 9:56 and they went to another village.

- They were quick to offend the other disciples by wanting the chief positions in Jesus' kingdom. Mar 10:35-41

Mar 10:35 Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

Mar 10:36 "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

Mar 10:37 They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."

Mar 10:38 "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?"

Mar 10:39 "We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with,

Mar 10:40 but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared."

Mar 10:41 When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John.

- James was the first of the apostles to suffer martyrdom, executed at the order of Herod Agrippa the first in c. A.D. 44.

Acts 12:1 It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them.

Acts 12:2 He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword.

- James thus figuratively drank the cup of suffering that he and John had rashly declared they were able to drink. (Mar 10:38-39)
- John, as we have noted is the most celebrated of all the Apostles and thus any summary of John's life, at this point, is beyond our purview.

10. Now back to our exegesis and analysis of Mar 1:20.

11. Jesus would have had to shout to the boys given what we know of the mooring practices and interestingly the two boys either swim to shore or they row to shore in the small boat.

12. The question is "had James and John earlier met the Lord?"

13. It is quite possible John had met the Lord earlier but that in itself is mere supposition.

14. Before we study verse 21, let me give you an expanded translation of Mar 1:20.

### Expanded Translation

**Mar 1:20 Jesus called out in a loud voice and immediately James and John followed Jesus leaving their Father Zebedee in the large boat with several of his hired hands.**

15. Jesus leads and the four disciples follow Him to the synagogue in Capernaum.

16. Now let's exegete verse 21.

KJV-New Sentence

Mar 1:21 And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

Και εισπορευομαι εις Καφαρναουμ και ευθυσ τοις σαββασιν εισερχομαι εις ο συναγωγη διδασκω.

1. Let me give you a literal translation of Mar 1:21.

Literal Translation

Mar 1:21 And they went into Capernaum and immediately on the weekly Sabbath Jesus entered into the synagogue and was continuously teaching.

2. **Kai** is a conjunction used as a simple connective followed by the verb **Eisporeuomai**, parsed as a 3<sup>rd</sup> person plural, present active indicative and the preposition **Eis** with the anarthrous indeclinable proper **Kapharnaoum** as its object. Next we have another connective **Kai** followed by the adverb **Euthus** and the monadic noun **Sabbaton**, declined as a locative singular. It is followed by the verb **Eiserchomai**, parsed as an aorist active participle. Next we have the preposition with the monadic noun **Synagogue**, declined as an accusative singular and lastly we have the verb **Didasko**, parsed as a 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular imperfect active indicative.

3. Andrew, Peter, James and John followed Jesus to the synagogue in Capernaum.

4. Let's see, at least in part, what the Wycliffe Bible Encyclopedia has to say about Capernaum and the synagogue located there.

### CAPERNAUM

1. After His rejection at Nazareth, Jesus determined to make Capernaum, on the Sea of Galilee, His headquarters.

2. Matthew called it "his own city" (Mat 9:1). Here occurred some of the most significant events of His ministry.

Mat 9:1 And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

3. Nearby, Jesus encountered the four fishermen Simon, Andrew, James, and John.

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