

1. Opening Prayer

2. Intro: Greek Tragedy and Markan Drama

➤ Greek Tragedy

Definition: A popular and influential form of drama performed in theatres. (worldhistory.org)

Components: plot, character, diction, thought, spectacle, and song/chorus. (Aristotle)

Features: dramatic narrations, ironic story development, religious, anonymity

Functions: collective reflection, self-referential, formation of public identity

➤ Markan Drama

Features: foreshadowing tragedy (Mark 2:20), dramatic turning point (Mark 8:29-38)

Three stages: Galilee (Chs. 1-8), Road to Jerusalem (Chs. 8-10), Jerusalem (Chs. 11-)

Questions.

Can you find Greek Tragedy's components in Gospel Mark?

What do we learn from the similarities/differences between Markan Drama and Greek Tragedy?

We see the anonymous people in Mark (1:22, 27, 2:12, 5:15, 20, 6:2, 7:37, 11:9-10). How do the people affect Gospel readers? (People are different from the crowd in 4:1, 11, 15:8, 11, 13)

3. Let us Read Ch. 6:1-13

- a. Verse 1 says that Jesus came to his hometown right after the miracle in 5:21-43. What would readers expect in Jesus' hometown?
- b. The disciples observed Jesus not welcomed in his hometown. What would they think?
- c. What does the people's response in verse 3 imply?

4. Let us read Ch. 6:14-29

- a. Why did many people think Jesus as Elijah or a prophet? And why did Herod think Jesus as John the Baptist?
- b. Why did Mark put the story of John the Baptist's death in the middle of Ch. 6?
- c. How is Herod described in this story?

5. Let us read Ch. 6:30-44

- a. What made Jesus feel compassionate to the people?
- b. What do you think about the disciple's suggestion in verse 36?
- c. What does Jesus' commandment/suggestion imply? (v. 37)
- d. Why do you think they had 12 baskets left over?
- e. How would you preach this story spiritually or theologically?

6. Let us read Ch. 6:45-56

- a. Read verses 45 and 53 again. Why do you think the destination is changed?
- b. Walking on the water, Jesus intended to pass by the disciples (v. 48). What is the implication of this statement?
- c. Can you compare this story with ch. 4:35-41?
- d. How shall we understand the simple last passage after many stories in Ch. 6?

7. Closing Prayer