

NIV **Mark 3** (Mark 3: 13-35 NIV)

THESE TWELVE APPOINTED

¹³ Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. ¹⁴ He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach ¹⁵ and to have authority to drive out demons. ¹⁶ These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter), ¹⁷ James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means "sons of thunder"), ¹⁸ Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot ¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

OUT OF CONTROL

²⁰ Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. ²¹ When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."
²² And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."

STRONG MAN... OR ROBBER?

²³ So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables:
"How can Satan drive out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. ²⁶ And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. ²⁷ In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house.
²⁸ Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be

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forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin." ³⁰ He said this because they

were saying, "He has an impure spirit." ³¹ Then Jesus' mother and brothers

arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. ³² A crowd was

sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are

outside looking for you." ³³ "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he

asked. ³⁴ Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said,

"Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ Whoever does God's will is my

brother and sister and mother."

REAL FAMILY