

Mark 1

Introduction

Date/Place: Earliest Gospel [63AD or earlier] Written in Rome
Recipients: Romans

"In the days when the Caesars ruled, the world longed for mercy and all they got was power" [JVM]

Author: Mark [John Mark]

- **John Mark:** John his Jewish name, Mark his Latin name
- Mark and Luke not apostles [Matthew/John]
- Scripture references to Mark:

Mark 14:51[Possible] [During Jesus arrest...] a certain young man followed Him, having a linen cloth thrown around his naked body. And the young men laid hold of him, 52 and he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.

Acts 12:12 [Peter] came to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together praying. [Mother wealthy, church met in home]

- Paul's 1st: Paul, John-Mark, Uncle Barnabas [Col.4:10] Mark home to mamma
- Paul's 2nd: Mark/Barnabas-Paul/Silas

2 Timothy 4:11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.

- Peter's Gospel?
- Mark the Spiritual son of Peter: [1 Peter 5:13 "...Marcus my son"]

"...such a light of piety shone into the minds of those who heard Peter that they were not satisfied with once hearing, nor with the unwritten doctrine that was delivered , but earnestly besought Mark (whose gospel is now spread abroad) that he would leave in writing for them the doctrine which they had received by preaching." [Roman Historian Eusebius Pamphili] Peter could sympathize with Mark's failure

- Peter loved to talk about his experiences with Jesus:

2 Peter 1:16 ...we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

- Gospel of Action: As was Peter's nature
- "and" used over 1300 times and "immediately" 40 times.
- Jesus as Servant of the Father, not King/Matthew

Rev 4:7 [4 beasts around the Throne of God]...the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

- Each face beast [living creature] represents one of 4 Gospels
- Calf/Ox represents gospel of Mark. Ox being creature of work/service

Isaiah 42:1 "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights!

- More about what Jesus "does" than what He "Says"

I. John the Baptist: Preparing the Way

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

- **Beginning of the Gospel**
 1. In the beginning **was the Word:** Before time [no date]
 - Set a peg...before that!
 2. In the beginning **God created**...from eternity into time [no date]
 3. Beginning of the **Gospel:** We know this date...incarnation
- **Gospel:** Jesus is the Gospel/ Good News of Son of God

1 Corinthians 15:1 I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain...that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. [Gospel is Jesus]

2 As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You." **3** "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight.'"

- No genealogy of Jesus as Matthew/Luke [Genealogy of a servant not needed]
- 2 Prophecies from Isaiah/Malachi [Mark uses few OT references] John talks J the B
- John the Baptist: Last of the OT Prophets walks into the new:
 1. **Nazarite:** Set apart to God
 - a) Take oath of service to God
 - b) Abstain from drinking wine and fermented liquor [grapes/raisins]
 - c) Let his hair grown uncut for the length of the vow
 - d) Must not come in contact with a corpse
 2. Order of priests/Levite
 3. Expected to minister Temple/Jerusalem
 4. Last OT Prophets; black and white, laid down the law
- First Word from prophet of God in over 300 years! [Apart from Anna/Simeon Luke 2]
- Fill the valley and know down the mountains. Make smooth path for the King

"John was God's bulldozer to build that highway." (Steadman)

- How did John prepare the Way:

4 John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

- **Original:** "John preached repentance and baptized 'unto' remission of sins".
- Rome needed more than law/oppression
- Remission of Sins: Gr. *aphesis*; i.e. "release from bondage or imprisonment"

Luke 1:17 [John] will also go before [Jesus] in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

5 Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

- **Revival:** Went out to see him? Confessing their sins?

6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

- OT Prophet Garb!

2 Kings 1:8 "A hairy man wearing a leather belt..." "It is Elijah the Tishbite."

- Locusts and wild honey?

7 And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose.

John 1:7 [John] came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. **8** He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. **9** That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

- Humility

John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease. **31** He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all.

8 I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

- Law preparing for Grace

Galatians 5:24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ [Prepare]

- **Water Baptism** [immersed] with water:
 1. Ritual baptism [Does not save]
 2. Testimony to others
 3. Commandment of Jesus

- **Baptism of Holy Spirit:** True baptism is immersion into the Body of Christ; Life, Death, Resurrection

II. Jesus Baptized by John: Identification with Humanity

⁹ It came to pass in those days *that* Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

- Jesus came to Nazareth of Galilee: 30 Years of relative silence
- **Baptized:** Identification with us; humans [Common name used "Jesus"]

Isaiah 53:12 He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many

- Sinless but identified with sinful humanity; not ashamed to call us brothers

¹⁰ And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove.¹¹ Then a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

- Father: My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased
- Son: Coming up out of the water
- Spirit: Descending as a dove

III. Satan Tempts Jesus: Identification with our Trials

¹² Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. ¹³ And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him.

- **Spirit drove Him:** Immediately after baptism
- **Drove:** def. cast out, drive out, to send out with notion of violence
- Tempted by Satan ALL 40 days
- **Temptation:** To disobey His father; change the plan
- With Wild beasts; Angels ministered to Him

IV. Jesus Galilean Ministry: Johns Work Finished

¹⁴ Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the

gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

- Preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God
- Kingdom of Heaven [Matthew] God's rule on earth
- Kingdom of God: Entire universe and all God's creatures
- [Time is here]...kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."
 1. Repent: If there is no turning from something, then apparently was no real turning to Christ [JVM] Real turning will mean real change
 2. Believe the Gospel

V. Calling the Disciples: Four Fisherman Choose to be Chosen

16 And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. **17** Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." **18** They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

- Simon [later Peter] and Andrew already knew Jesus:

John 1:35 [Read] ...looking at Jesus as He walked, [John] said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" 39 He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). 40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone).

19 When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also *were* in the boat mending their nets. **20** And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him.

- Next pair of brothers chosen: James and John
- Peter and Andrew/ James and John: 4 Fisherman called:

1 Corinthians 1:26 ...you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*.

- Calvary Chapel pastors: Ex-drug addicts, criminals, gang bangers,

VI. Authority of Jesus Teaching

21 Then they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath He

entered the synagogue and taught.

- 5 Went to Capernaum...after leaving Nazareth?

Mark 6:6 "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." 5 Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. 6 And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

- **Capernaum:** Jesus headquarters entire earthly ministry
- Immediately entered synagogue on Sabbath and taught:

22 And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

- Authority of Jesus Teaching
- Churches today are departing from the Word of God, losing authority

1 Timothy 1:3 [Read] teach no other doctrine, nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith.

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron

1 Timothy 6:3 If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, 4 he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, 5 useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. [As opposed to Col 2 knit together in love]

2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 16 But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. 17 And their message will spread like cancer.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 4:1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: 2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the **time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine**, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

- It is the GOSPEL that changes lives:

1 Timothy 1: 15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...

Romans 1:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes

- Jesus taught with authority because He is the Word of God become flesh [John 1:14]
- We teach with authority because we do not/will not deviate from the Word of God

SUMMARY: Authority in Teaching

VII. Authority of Jesus over the Supernatural

23 Now there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit. And he cried out,

- In Church with an Unclean Spirit: **Demons**
- Christians cannot be demon possessed; not everyone in church building is a believer

Matthew 13:24 "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; 25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way....38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the **sons of the wicked one**

24 [Man singular], "Let *us* alone [plural]! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!"

- **We know who you are:** They previously worshiped Him

Hebrews 1:6 ...when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him."

- Satan began as beautiful angel worshiping Jesus [Lucifer]

Ezekiel 28:12 "You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.¹³ You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created.¹⁴ "You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.¹⁵ You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you.¹⁶ "By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence within, And you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing Out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery stones. [Cast out]

Isaiah 14: 12 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! 13 For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' 15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit. [Lucifer now Satan the Accuser, adversary]

- Took angels with him:

Revelation 12: 3 ...behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. 4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth.

- Satan/Demons Purpose: Keep you from God and God from you!

1. Beginning:

- a) Deceive Adam/Eve, lie about God's character
- b) Tempt them to sin
- c) Kill coming Messiah [Pharaoh, Haman, Herod]
- d) Later to keep Jesus for the cross

2. Keep people from getting saved through:

- a) Bondage to substances [filling void with putting stuff in our body]
- b) Bondage to licentiousness [filling the void by what we do with/to our bodies]
- c) Unbelief
- d) Pride
- e) Bondage to Religion: Synagogue?

All religion apart from Christ is Satanic. Religion is mankind's greatest hindrance to Salvation. The author and originator of religion is the devil [Costa]

- Religion is like "Trampling blood of Christ"
- Here demon possession of the religious guy! Jesus authority over demons:

25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" **26** And when the unclean spirit had convulsed him and cried out with a loud voice, he came out of him.

- Shut up and Come out/ convulsed [one last jab]/cried and came out

27 Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? What new doctrine *is* this? For **with authority He commands even the unclean spirits**, and they obey Him." **28** And immediately His fame spread throughout all the region around Galilee.

- Authority to COMMAND demons...and they obey Him
- Later Jesus would lend His authority to His disciples:

Luke 10:19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

- **SUMMARY:** Jesus authority in teaching, Jesus authority over demons, now Jesus authority over sickness. Fame spreading but Jesus day not over...

VIII. Authority of Jesus over Sickness

29 Now as soon as they had come out of the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. **30** But Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once. **31** So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them.

- Same day as demon is cast out Jesus heals Peters mother-in law...why?
- Signs that Jesus is the Messiah and God has arrived:

Luke 10: 9 [To the 70] ...heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Matthew 11:2 And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?"⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. [cf. below]

Isaiah 35:4 Say to those *who are* fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come *with* vengeance, *With* the recompense of God; He will come and save you."⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.⁶ Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert.⁷ The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, *There shall be* grass with reeds and rushes.⁸ A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.

32 At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed. **33** And the whole city was gathered together at the door. **34** Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not allow the demons to speak, because they knew Him.

- Evening same day of casting out demon, healing Peter's mother in law
- After sun-set brought all: Sabbath traveling restriction end
- Relentlessly doing good!

Galatians 6:9 ...let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

IX. Circuit Preaching/Demon Casting

35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed. ³

- Jesus prayed at a solitary place

"Woe unto that man whose devotion is observed by everybody, and who never offers a

secret supplication. Secret prayer is the secret of prayer, the soul of prayer, the seal of prayer, the strength of prayer. If you do not pray alone, you do not pray at all. I care not whether you pray in the street, or in the church, or in the barrack-room, or in the cathedral; but your heart must speak with God in secret, or you have not prayed." (Spurgeon)

6 And Simon and those *who were* with Him searched for Him. **37** When they found Him, they said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You." **38** But He said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth." **39** And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons.

- For this purpose: The beginning of the Gospel; preaching Good News
- Preached in their synagogues and cast out demons

X. Compassion

40 Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean."

- Luke: "Filled with Leprosy" latter stages
- Quarantined; not to be touched by OT Law
- Dress like people in mourning: Living dead
- Cry out "Unclean, Unclean!"
- Picture of sin: Starting out small and leading to death:
 1. Small red spots on skin
 2. Turn white, shin, scaly
 3. Spread over body
 4. Hair falls out head and eyebrows
 5. Nails/Toenails get loose start to rot off
 6. Gums shrink/teeth fall out
 7. Nose, palate, eyes rot
 8. Die

41 Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed." **42** As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.

- Leper came and kneeled down "If you are willing?" Luke: Full of Leprosy/Latter

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

43 And He strictly warned him and sent him away at once, **44** and said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing those things which Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

- Mosaic Law: Show healing to priest
- Jesus did not break as he was healed the moment he was touched!

45 However, he went out and began to proclaim *it* freely, and to spread the matter, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter the city, but was outside in deserted places; and they came to Him from every direction.

- **Proclaim freely:** Lit. "Blaze abroad"

The Lord told him not to tell anybody and he told everybody. The Lord tells us to tell everybody and we tell nobody?"

- Lord withdraws from Capernaum but people keep coming from every direction!
- **Miracles:** Not tricks but signs pointing to the Messiah

Luke 10:19 ...the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

Ezekiel 11:19 ...I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh

Mark 2:17 "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

Let Jesus touch you, heal you, restore you, make you whole