

The Gospel According to Mark:
Walking with Jesus: The Servant-Son of God and Savior of Men

Gospel of Mark

Bible Studies from Southside Bible Church
Discussion Notes by Rev. Don Kakavec

The Gospel According to Mark: Walking with Jesus: The Servant-Son of God and Savior of Men

Introductory Matters:

Our Teachers:

1. The Holy Spirit (John 14:14-26; 15:26, 16:13)
2. Don Kakavecós 317-517-8023, kakavecós@aol.com

Our Text: The Bible

Translations: I will be using the *NASB Update* for my basic study. Please feel free to use any and all good translations for study and comparison. Remember that a translation is only as good as the people who translated it. Translations by only 1 person or a small committee of people may be less reliable than those of a larger translation committee.

Our 3-Fold Approach:

1. The **historical-grammatical-contextual** method:

Historical – The text must be interpreted in light of the historical, geographical, and cultural realities at the time it was written.

Grammatical – The text must be interpreted in light of the words used and their meaning at the time of the writing.

Contextual – The text must be interpreted in light of the passages around it, the book it is in, and the Bible as a whole.

NB: A text without a context is only a pretext. You can prove almost anything from the Bible, if you ignore the context, and/or the historical and grammatical facts.

2. Verse by verse using the **OIA** method (This order is essential.):

OBSERVATION which answers the question: What does the text **SAY**?

INTERPRETATION which answers the question: What does the text **MEAN**?

APPLICATION which answers the question: What does the text **WANT ME TO DO**?

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3. The **two primary questions** method:

1. What does the text tell me about God? (He never changes.)
2. What does the text tell me about Man? (He only changes by God's power.)

Some Beginning Observations on **Mark**:

Title: The Gospel According to Mark

Place in the English Bible:

- 41st of 66 books in the English Bible
- 2nd of 27 books in the New Testament
- 2nd of 4 Gospels: Good news reports about Jesus Christ

New Testament Books			
Gospels (4)	Historical Book (1)	Epistles or Letters (21)	Prophetic or Apocalyptic (1)
Matthew Mark Luke John	Acts (companion to and continuation of Luke)	<u>Paul</u> : Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon Unknown: Hebrews James (1/2 brother of Jesus): James Peter: 1 & 2 Peter John: 1, 2, & 3 John Jude (1/2 brother of Jesus): Jude	Revelation

Statistics:

- 16 chapters
- 678 verses
- Can be read in about 1hr and 22 minutes

Style: Narrative emphasizing the actions of Jesus more than the teachings of Jesus. It is also the most chronological gospel and documents more of the activities of Jesus than any of the other 3 gospels.

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Authorship: Although internally anonymous, the clear testimony of the early church fathers is that the author is John Mark (cf. Acts 12:12ff, 13:13; Acts 15:37-38; Col. 4:10; 1 Peter 5:13).

Audience: Romans

Date of writing: Between 55 and 70 AD (Temple destroyed in 70 AD, cf. 13:2).

Historical Time Period: about A.D. 29-33

Key word: *Immediately* used 41 times

ευθεως <G2112>, adverb (from ευθως), "straightway, immediately, forthwith"

Key Verse: **Mark 10:45**

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,
and to give His life a ransom for many."

Jesus Portrayed as: The Servant-Son of God and the Savior/Sacrifice for Man

Mark: A Quick Reading

Read (takes about 1 hr and 22 min.) or skim the book of *Mark*.

Write down any observations that help you to get an overview of the book's subject, divisions, tone, main characters, etc:

Write down any questions that come to mind that may need special study:

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Mark 1:1-13—Observation
What does the text SAY?

Observe and Record (Not all may be in the text):

Indicators of time and sequence:

Names used for God:

People involved or referred to:

Places involved or referred to:

Cultural practices or references:

Repeated words and/or statements:

Promises. Are they conditional or unconditional?

Comparisons or contrasts that are made:

Commands or prohibitions that are made:

Cause and effect/result statements (if this...then this... or because of this...then this):

References to other biblical passages or verses:

Record any other observations that may be important to understanding this passage:

The Gospel According to Mark:
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Mark 1:1-13—Interpretation
What does the text MEAN?

First look over your observations and decide which items need further study.
Then check commentaries, study Bibles, etc. for help and record your findings.
Some beginning questions are listed below. Use additional sheets as necessary.

1. What is the meaning of the word *gospel* found in verse 1? How does **verse 1** introduce the book of *Mark*?
2. **Verses 2-8** introduce the ministry of John the Baptist. Where is the OT quote from? Why is it here? Why is John mentioned? What was he like? What was his message?
3. **Verses 9-11** recount the baptism of Jesus. What are the specifics mentioned? Who saw and heard these things? Why is this recorded without any reference to Jesus' birth or childhood?
4. **Verses 12-13** speak of the temptation of Jesus. How was the Holy Spirit involved? How does this square with James 1:13-16? Who was the tempter? What does his name mean? Who else was present and what were their roles?
5. How do the above verses serve to introduce Jesus? How would you title this section?
6. What do you learn about man and about God in this section?

Mark 1:1-13—Application
What does the text WANT ME TO DO?

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Class Notes: *Mark 1:1-13*

Observation:

(To be reviewed in class)

Interpretation:

Application:

Additional Notes or Questions for Further Study:
