

THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS – p. 1

“He Came to Serve”

Mark 1:1-13

A Map to Mark

The first part of the message today is a map to Mark’s gospel –

The title of the series comes from the first verse as translated in the NIV –

- Mark 1:1 – *“The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God...”*
- Mark’s gospel is the good news about Jesus –
- Each and every week we will see (maybe discover) more and more good news about Jesus!

Mark’s Message

What is the good news about Jesus?

- Jesus is the Servant King Who is God and those who believe in Him become part of His eternal kingdom and are called to be His fellow servants.

There’s four parts to this:

1 – Jesus is the Servant King

2 – Who is God

- In Mark 1:1, Mark declares Jesus to be the “Son of God” (a clear reference to His deity) –

3 – Those who believe in Him become part of His Eternal Kingdom

4 – And are called to be His fellow servants

- So, Christian, you will revel and rejoice in all Jesus is for you as your Savior, AND you will be challenged in relation to serving as He has served!

The Pinnacle of Mark’s gospel is Mark 10:45 – (This will serve as our key verse to the series)

- Mark 10:45 – *“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

Structure and Vibe

The structure of Mark is simple –

- Three parts that center around geography –
- Part 1 – Events in the Galilee
- Part 2 – Events on the way to Jerusalem
- Part 3 – Events in Jerusalem

Something that distinguishes Mark’s gospel from Matthew’s and Luke’s is the “vibe” –

- Mark is a concise, fast-moving summary of the life and gospel of Jesus.
- The fast-paced nature is seen in Mark’s use of the word “immediately” –
- 9x in chapter 1 –
- 1:10 – *“...he came up out of the water, immediately he saw...”*
- 1:12 – *“The Spirit immediately drove him...”*
- 1:18 – *“And immediately they left their nets and followed him.”*
- 1:20 – *“And immediately he called them...”*

Because his primary audience is a typical Roman citizen – There’s a parallel to you here –

Read Mark 1:1-13

Pray

The Good News about Jesus – He is God!

Mark declares that Jesus is the Son of God –

- 1:1 – *“The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”*
- Then Mark gives four witnesses that He is the Son of God –

1 – Fulfilled Prophecy – vs. 2-3

- Mark gets straight to it – (Read verses 1-3)
- Mark will reference the OT 4 more times in his gospel while Matthew will reference OT 8 times in first four chapters – (Roman not a Jewish audience)
- Here's why we refer to Jesus as the Servant **King** –
 - First, Mark's use of the word "gospel" or "good news" –
 - Second, Isaiah's prophecy is that the true king would be preceded by a "messenger" or sometimes called a "forerunner" –
 - This is why it says, *"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice, of one crying in the wilderness. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."*
- Jesus is the Son of God and He is the One the prophet spoke of – witness number 1!

2 – The Testimony of John the Baptizer – vs. 4-8

- John this says (vs7-8) – *"And he preached, saying, 'After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'"*
- That "baptism of the Holy Spirit" is the promise of the Father to give His people new hearts in a New Covenant which is based on the shed blood of Jesus.
- What Jesus does for us is far more than a religious act –
- Baptism in water has a purpose, but it doesn't do what Jesus does in baptizing us with the Spirit!

3 – The Witness at His Baptism – vs. 9-11

- The question is asked "Why did Jesus get baptized?"
- But with Jesus, his baptism wasn't for Him to declare something about Himself, but at the baptism, something was declared about Him!
- There were three witnesses that declared something about Jesus –
 - One – The heavens "torn open" –
 - Two – The Holy Spirit descending like a dove.
 - Three – The declaration of the Father – "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

4 – His Victory over the Evil One – vs. 12-13

- Matthew and Luke give the whole account of His temptation –
 - The first Adam (and Eve) failed when the tempter came – But not the second Adam!
 - He resisted the tempter to prove He was more than merely human.
- The wild animals' reference is proving His power over nature –
- The angels according to Psalm 103:20-21 do the will of God and obey His voice.

Application**If God didn't come down –**

- We would be lost with no hope of being found.
- We would be broken with no hope of being healed.
- We would be rebels with no hope of being reconciled.

God is unlike any other because He did come down – In the Servant King Jesus!

- The gospel is that Jesus is God.
- One must confess that Jesus is God to be saved.