

The Gospels Period- Christ As A Servant... *Mark 1:1-16:20*

Mark is the second of the gospels in our Bible book order. Matthew, as you will recall, presented Jesus as King of Israel. Mark presents Him as servant. While Matthew had a genealogy Mark does not. A King needs a genealogy but a servant does not. The traditional symbol of Mark has been the ox. The ox is a beast of burden and a symbol of servant hood.

Mark is writing to the Roman mind in the style of a preacher. He places emphasis on the miracles of Jesus. Mark is the shortest of the four gospels. It contains few Old Testament references. Many think that Peter had a great influence on this gospel and Mark.

The words "**Straightway**" and "**Immediately**" are considered the key words in the book. They appear some forty times.

We might ask who was Mark? Mark was a traveling companion of Paul and Peter. He is also known as John Mark in the scriptures. I offer the following verses if you wish to do a study of Mark. (**Acts 12:12, 25; 13:5, 13; 15:37; Col 4:10; II Tim 4:11; Phlm. 24; I Pet 5:13**) John Mark had a godly mother and was related to Barnabas. He also left Paul on his missionary journey and because of this Paul refused to take him on a later journey. He however was a later faithful companion of Paul.

We will break down the gospel of Mark in four areas.

I- Introduction to the Servant. Mark 1:1-13

II- The Servant in Galilee. Mark 1:14-9:50

III- Move to Jerusalem. Mark 10:1-52

IV- Passion Week. Mark 11:1-16:20

I- Introduction to the Servant. Mark 1:1-13

Mark began his gospel with the Ministry of John the Baptist preparing the way for the Messiah. **1:1-8**. Jesus comes to John and is baptized. **1:9-11**. He is next tempted in the wilderness for forty days. **1:12-13**.

Of special importance in this introduction is verse one. "**Jesus Christ the Son of God.**" Mark allows the miracles Jesus performed to show this deity that he stated here.

II- The Servant in Galilee. Mark 1:14-9:50

"Jesus came to Galilee." 1:14

Galilee was the setting of most of His miracles and ministry. Galilee was north of Jerusalem. First he calls four fishermen to follow Him. **1:16-20**. These four were Simon, Andrew, James and John.

1:21ff records Him casting out demons. The people were, "**All amazed...**" **1:27**

1:29ff tells us of Jesus healing Simon Peter's mother in law. This leads to a great crowd gathering for healing.

1:40ff is where He heals the leper. This again lead to a crowd coming to the Servant Jesus.

2:1ff records the healing of a paralyzed man.

3:1ff Jesus heals a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath. This upset the religious pious Pharisees. This

is the beginning of the plotting by them to kill Jesus.

4:1ff records some of the parables of Jesus such as the parable of the sower, the candle under a basket, etc.

In **5:1ff** the Gadarene maniac is healed and Jesus fame spreads. **5:21ff** is where the healing of Jarius', a ruler of the synagogue, daughter is healed.

6:1ff shows His rejection in Nazareth, His hometown.

6:30ff is where we find recorded that Jesus feed the 5000. Luke also records Him feeding 4000 at another time in **8:1ff**.

In **6:45ff** we find that He walks on the sea.

He heals a deaf and dumb man in **7:31ff**.

All of these miracles caused His reputation to grow. He went around healing and serving his fellowman. His healing, casting out demons, feedings, etc. showed forth His deity. He served the needs of the hungry and hurting around Him. Mark pictures Him for us a servant.

III- Move to Jerusalem. *Mark 10:1-52*

Chapter ten is a transition chapter. Jesus is going to move from Galilee in the north to Jerusalem.

10:14 records that Jesus was, "**displeased.**" Another thing worth noting about Marks gospel is that he also stressed the feeling of Jesus. (See **1:41,43; 3:5; 7:34; 8:34; 9:19**)

IV- Passion Week. *Mark 11:1-16:20*

The events of the last few days of Jesus ministry take up about one third of the gospel of Mark.

11:1-11 **Zechariah 9:9** had prophesied the events of that transpire

in this portion of scripture, Messiah's entry into Jerusalem. He is welcomed now but in a few days this same crowd will cry out "**crucify him.**"

11:12-14 tells of a significant event when Jesus curses the barren fig tree. Israel is pictured in scripture as the fig tree.

12:13ff is a record of the Pharisees and other sects joining together to trap Jesus. It did not work by the way.

In **14:1ff** are the events that lead to the death of Messiah.

14:3-9 shows Mary of Bethany anointing Him for his death.

14:10-31 is the Passover at which Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper. Judas betrays him in the Garden of Gethsemene in **14:32-52**.

The trial of Jesus is recorded in **14:53-15:15**. He was crucified without being found guilty of any crime.

15:16-39 records the crucifixion of Jesus on the cross. **15: 40-47** gives us the account of His burial.

16:1-8 sets forth the picture of our hope. The tomb is empty He is risen.

16:19-20 is the ascension of Christ back to heaven from which He came and will come again.

Application to Life's Steps:

- 1- Our Lord modeled servant hood for us and this should move us to serve each other.
- 2- By studying the life of Christ we can find the one we should emulate in our lives.
- 3- Christ miracles showed that He was indeed Messiah.
- 4- He was not guilty of any crime but willingly took our sins and paid the debt for them.
- 5- He is not here for He is risen is what gives us our hope. He is alive so we to can live.

Retracing our Steps:

- 1- Who was the author of Mark?

- 2- What is the symbol of Mark?

- 3- What does Mark present Christ as?

- 4- To whom does Mark write his gospel?

- 5- What is your favorite portion of scripture of Mark's Gospel? Quote it here. _____

Personal Notes
