



The Gospel of Mark Following Christ

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Introduction to Mark Purpose, Structure, Themes October 9, 2016 Pastor Bob Meissner

Theme: Today we begin our study of the Second Gospel. We will take a bird’s eye view of the whole Gospel, focusing on its author, purpose, structure and key themes. Mark writes to show Jesus as the mighty Messiah and Son of God. Yet He came first to suffer and die as the Servant of the Lord and pay the penalty for our sins.

Outline

1. Who was Mark?
 - a. The son of Mary of Jerusalem (Acts 12:12)
 - b. Cousin to Barnabas (Col. 4:10), missionary companion to Paul/Peter (Acts 12:24)
2. Mark’s Purpose
 - a. Original audience and Reason
 - b. Central Message

3. Mark's Structure

- a. The Prologue (1:1-13)
- b. The Authority of the Messiah (1:14-8:21)
- c. The Way of Suffering of the Messiah (8:22-15:47)
- d. Epilogue: The Resurrection Announcement (16:1-8)

4. Key Themes

- a. The Gospel (Mark 1:1-3)
- b. The Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14-15)
- c. Jesus the authoritative Christ and Son of God (Mark 15:39)
- d. Jesus the Servant of the Lord (Isaiah 53)
- e. A Call for Cross-bearing Discipleship (Mark 10:45)

Takeaway: Mark's Gospel shows us Jesus the Messiah and the Son of God. Our call is to follow Jesus who remained faithful to God no matter what the cost.

Next Cove: October 16, 2016

John the Baptist Prepares the Way
Mark 1:1-8

Resources: Exegetical Commentary on the NT, Mark L. Strauss; Four Portraits, One Jesus: An Introduction to Jesus and the Gospels, Mark L. Strauss