

THE BEGINNING OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—May 15th, 2022

Mark 1:1–3

(ESV)

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

[2] As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,

[3] the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Guiding Question—Why is Jesus so important?

Philippians 3:8—*Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.*

BACKGROUND

The Gospel of Mark

- Shortest of all four gospels
- Likely a source for the other gospel writers
- Written quite early, likely in the 50's or 60's AD

Mark was an influential young man in the early church

- Associated with Barnabas (Col 4:10), Paul (Acts 12 & 13), Peter (1 Pet. 5:13)
- Mark likely wrote his gospel as he compiled Peter's stories of Jesus
- “Mark, being the interpreter of Peter, whatsoever he remembered he wrote accurately...” —Papias, church father
- Mark highlights Jesus in action—*Immediately (euthus) appears 47x*

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.*

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD (v. 1)

Gospel (*euangelion*) = good news

Isaiah 52:7

[7] *How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”*

For Mark the gospel is the good news about the events of Jesus' life.

The title “Son of God” takes a special importance in the Gospel of Mark

- The Father refers to Jesus as his Son twice (1:11 baptism & 9:7 transfiguration)
- Demons know that Jesus is the Son of God (3:11 and 5:7)
- The Roman centurion is the first man to recognize him as Son of God (15:39)

“We exist to proclaim the gospel for the hope of the lost, for the edification of the Church, and for the glory of God in Christ.” -CBC Purpose Statement

Hebrews 2:11—*For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers...*

Ephesians 1:3—*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places...*

Ephesians 1:7—*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace...*

Being satisfied in Christ is the only solution for all our dissatisfactions.

John 1:12—*But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...*

JESUS IS THE PROMISED MESSIAH (vs. 2-3)

All of the Old Testament pointed forward to the coming of Christ!

John 5:46—*For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me.*

The only way God's people can be with God is if God will come to us.

- **Romans 5:8**—*...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*
- **Ephesians 2:4–5**—*[4] But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, [5] even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved...*
- **1 John 4:10**—*In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

Worship is only true when we understand and respond to what God has done for us through the life and work of Christ.