

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARK

Introduction

Who wrote the Gospel of Mark? What Apostle's authority stands behind this second Gospel?

What primary audience is the Gospel directed toward? What evidence is there for this position?

What are the major themes of Secret and Sonship in Mark's Gospel?

Chapter 1

The Preaching of John the Baptist

What is the meaning of John not being worthy to untie the straps of Jesus's sandals?

The Baptism of Jesus

Why does Jesus receive John's baptism? How does the Blessed Trinity manifest and reveal itself at the baptism of Jesus?

The Temptation of Jesus

How does the temptation of Jesus relate to the temptation of Adam and Israel in the Old Testament?

Jesus Cleanses a Leper

What is the “Messianic Secret” and why did Jesus decide to employ this strategy?

Chapter 2

Who Are the Pharisees?

What does the word Pharisee mean?

How was the quest for holiness and separation by the Pharisees expressed?

How did Jesus view the relationship between Israel and the Gentiles as it relates to the New Covenant?
How does this contrast with the view that the Pharisees held?

A Teaching about the Sabbath

How does David and his companions compare with Jesus and his disciples concerning the Mosaic ritual Law and the Sabbath?

What is the subtle meaning that Jesus implies by citing Abiathar as High Priest?

Chapter 3

Jesus Appoints the Twelve

What is the significance of Jesus appointing 12 Apostles?

The True Kindred of Jesus

What is the difference between biological relationships and spiritual relationships?

Chapter 4

The Parable of the Sower

What is the Jesus' purpose for using parables to teach?

What are the three responses to this parable that prove unfruitful?

Some Protestants teach: “Once saved, always saved”. Therefore once you accept Jesus as your Lord and savior you are assured of your salvation. How does this teaching relate to the seed that fell on rocky ground that immediately sprang up but later withered away?

Explanation of the Parable

Jesus entrusts the true meaning of the interpretation of the parables to his inner circle of disciples, how does the true meaning of the faith get transmitted down through the ages?

Chapter 5

Jesus Heals the Gerasene Demoniac

What is the biblical symbolism of the sea as it relates to demons and the swine being cast into the sea?

A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed

How are these two accounts of healing related?

The woman with a flow of blood was unclean. What does “uncleanliness” in the New Testament mean? What happens when Jesus touches this woman?

Chapter 6

Feeding of the Five Thousand

How does the miracle of the loaves relate to the past and to the future?

What are the four verbs used in the feeding of the multitude? How do these verbs compare with the Passover meal celebrated by Jesus on Holy Thursday?

Who does Jesus give the multiplied bread to? How does this manifest itself in the New Testament?

Chapter 7

Tradition of the Elders

What were the traditions of the elders? How do they relate to God's written law? Are they of equal status to God's revealed law?

Chapter 8

The Demand for a Sign

How are the Pharisees like the Israelites in the Wilderness?

The Leaven of the Pharisees and of Herod

What is the symbolism of the numbers 12 and 7 as it relates to the loaves and the feeding of the multitude?