

meeting

Jesus

The Gospel of Mark



MPC Growth Group Studies - T1 2025



STUDY ONE MARK 1: 1-13

It would be helpful if you could try to read the whole of the book of Mark before we begin the studies. We will be leaving out chapters.

Imagine you are reading the Gospel of Mark with an unbelieving friend. You will want to help them understand what the passage is saying for itself. Keep asking “What does the passage say?”

What can they learn about the Lord Jesus?

What is each passage telling them about what being a Christian, a follower of Jesus means?

Q1 After reading the passage, concentrate on verse 1.

This isn't a Title for the document before us as such, but what?

We are introduced to 4 voices who speak in these verses.

Firstly, the authors' declaration of Good News * see note below

Mark proclaims to his listeners 'joyful tidings' concerning One who has the meaningful Names of:

JESUS To help find the meaning, read Matthew 1:18-24;

John 1:28-29

**see note below

CHRIST (Greek) or Messiah (Hebrew)

The Greek word root *chrio* has the same meaning as the Hebrew word root *to anoint*. Kings and priests were anointed for their role.

Q 2 Find characteristics of this Anointed one by reading some of the OT prophecies which foretold Him:

Isaiah 61:1-2

Jeremiah 23: 5-6

Psalm 45: 1-7

SON OF GOD see Luke 1:26-33,35

Q 3 As soon as we are told that these ‘Tidings of Good News’ are all about Jesus, there is suddenly another person placed in the foreground. *The Second Voice* speaks of this person.

The prophets Malachi and Isaiah together prophesy their role.

What do Malachi 3:1 and Isaiah 40: 3-5,9-11 declare?

Q 4 John the Baptist appears. What do we see him doing? Verses 4-7

Is John successful in fulfilling the OT prophecies?

Q 5 *Thirdly, John’s own voice* declares the coming of what type of person? v.7-8

Q 6 The coming of a King has been foretold with great fanfare by the prophets; one of great worth and honour? Is it a surprise that when he arrives, He comes quietly and from a tiny town in Galilee, Nazareth?

What can this begin to tell us about The Christ, Jesus?

Q 7 *The final voice.* v.9-11

If you were reading this with an unbelieving friend, what is important

for them to learn from what happens here at the Jordan and from the declaration by the voice from Heaven?

If time, see Psalm 2:7, Isaiah 42: 1-4.

Q 8 What aspects of God's personhood do we see clearly in Jesus' baptism?

What is the Spirit's role in Jesus' Baptism and afterward? v12.

Q 9 Considering again the meanings of Jesus' Titles as in Q1 and Q2 and therefore His mission, how is His temptation by His enemy intimately connected?

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\*Gospel, Good News, Evangel was not a word coined firstly by Christians. Pagans like the Romans used it meaning 'joyful tidings' e.g: to do with the birthday of the Emperor/ God, festivals, announcements, victories.

From this, spring the words like Evangelist-one who preaches the Good News of Jesus or Evangelical-one who upholds the truth of the Gospel of Jesus.

\*\*The name Jesus, was actually, fairly common. Derived from Joshua or Aramaic Jeshua in NT times meaning 'Jehovah is salvation'

However, only Jesus the Christ, fulfilled His name.

\*\*\*For further insight into Jesus' temptation and mission, see Genesis 3: 15; Colossians 1:13-14 ; 1Peter2: 23-24

Q How is the loneliness and severity of Jesus' temptation revealed?

### Prayer in your Groups

Praise Jesus, the Rescuer King, Son of God

Ask that as we study Mark, that you will know the Lord more fully