

Mark Overview – Mark 1:1-15 / 8:27-38 / 15:33-39

Illustration: Getting algebra?

More importantly: Getting the Gospel - 1:1 *The beginning of the gospel of Jesus - Christ, the Son of God.*

- Do you get who Jesus is? / Do you get what Jesus does?

Theme: The Good News of Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God calls us to faith and to follow

I. The Gospel of Mark is about Jesus

A. The Gospel is about who Jesus is

1. Mark is concerned with Jesus' identity

- The first half of the gospel focuses on who Jesus is

a. The first half of the gospel focuses on Jesus' public ministry

1. Frequently read of Jesus being with the multitudes / amid the crowds / with the people

2. Throughout this time Jesus reveals Himself as One with great authority

a. He teaches with authority

b. He acts with authority

- Jesus exercises authority over demons

- Jesus exercises authority over illness: Heals multitudes

- Jesus exercises authority over nature: Jesus calms the storm / Jesus walks on water

- Jesus exercises the authority to forgive sins

b. The first half of the gospel closes with a climatic revelation of Jesus' identity

1. 8:27-28: Jesus *asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"*

2. 8:29: *And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered Him, "You are the Christ."*

2. Mark's desire is that his readers be concerned about Jesus identity

a. At beginning of 1st half of the gospel – in Jesus' baptism: God calls out Jesus as His beloved Son

- At the end of 1st half of the gospel the disciples make that profession: You are the Christ

b. At beginning of 2nd half of the gospel – in Jesus' transfiguration: God calls out Jesus as His beloved Son

- At the end of the gospel: Roman centurion makes that profession

1. What God says concerning Jesus is what you are to say concerning Jesus

2. When Jesus asks His disciples: *Who do you say that I am?*

- Not just Peter & the disciples being asked: You are being asked

B. The Gospel is about what Jesus does

1. Mark is concerned about the mission of Jesus
 - The 2nd half of the gospel is about what Jesus does
 - a. Expectation of the day was the Messiah / Christ who be a King / political figure
 - b. Jesus expected something else
 1. 8:31 - Jesus *began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests & the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again.*
 - Jesus / the Christ has not come free His people of the day from the Romans
 - Has come to set all His people from power of sin and death
 2. Peter doesn't get it: Took Jesus aside and rebuked Him
2. Mark desires that his readers get it
 - a. Jesus is determined to go to Jerusalem
 - b. Mark dwells on Jesus' time in Jerusalem – on His suffering / His cross / His death
 - This is what the Christ / Son of God does – Gives His life a ransom for many

II. The Gospel of Mark addresses us

A. The gospel calls us to faith

1. This news concerning Jesus is good news
 - a. Jesus is the Messiah / the Christ / the Anointed One / the King
 - b. Jesus is bringing the Kingdom
 - 1:14-15: *Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."*
2. Good news calls for repentance and faith
 - a. Repentance = Is turning from where you disagree with God to agreeing with Him
 - b. Faith = Believing Jesus / trusting Jesus / resting everything on Jesus

B. The gospel calls us to follow Jesus

1. Following Jesus is to be devoted to Jesus and to love others
2. Following Jesus is not the easy road
 - a. Mark writes on behalf of Peter
 - b. Mark writes to suffering Christians
 - Remember: The road of suffering is the road Jesus walked
 - Remember: It is the road He calls His disciples to walk
3. Following Jesus is the road that leads to heaven

Conclusion: The Good News of Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God calls us to faith and to follow
 - Do you get it?