

# The Actual End to Mark's Gospel

## An Illustration of Letting God Be True

1. Review of Sunday's lesson, *God Said It*:
  - a. God spoke, and last to and through Paul (Heb 1:1, 1 Cor 15:8, **Eph 3:8-10**)
  - b. The Devil's lie is to question what God said (Gen 3:1, **Mat 4:6-7**)
    - i. Was Paul an apostle to the Gentiles, given the dispensation of the gospel of the grace of God, the Mystery of Christ, to fulfill God's words? God said it, yes?
  - c. Let God be true, acknowledging different things He said even when hard to understand!
    - i. Rather than dismissing/twisting scripture, study to understand (**2 Tim 2:15**)
    - ii. If it is between you or the scripture being wrong, it's you!
2. Mark 16 Summary:
  - a. Women bring spices to empty tomb (1-8, Mat 28:1, Lk 24:1, Jn 20:1)
  - b. Mary sees risen Jesus and tells others, don't believe (9-11, Mat 28:8, Lk 24:9-11, Jn 20:2)
  - c. Two others see Jesus and tell others, don't believe (12-13, Lk 24:13-35)
  - d. He appears to 11, upbraids for disbelief, instructs (14-18, Lk 24:33-49, Jn 20:19-29)
  - e. Jesus is received up into Heaven (19, Lk 24:50-51)
  - f. The 11 went forth and preached every where, confirming word with signs following (20)
3. The Doctrine of Preservation
  - a. God said words, and man needs God's words to use them - Preservation
  - b. Preservation not through the science and history of manuscripts, or years of studying the original languages, or textual criticism
  - c. "It's not in the most ancient texts" – older doesn't mean accurate or better (**2 Cor 2:17**)
    - i. Sinaiticus, found in an Egyptian monastery in 1844, written 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D.
    - ii. Vaticanus, found in Vatican library, catalogued 1475, written 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D.
  - d. You don't have to reconstruct (textual criticism) what is already preserved (if we lost it, it was not preserved, i.e. not God's word)
  - e. Preservation is of God, found throughout time by faith in God's words (people reading, using, and copying) – see Justin's lesson, *Biblical Preservation*, from 6/5/2022, or *God's Preserved Words*, from 11/8/2022, part 14 of a series on God's Words Given To Us
4. The wrong question: Hath God said?
  - a. Is it hard? Study and consider ways you may be wrong. Don't delete! (**2 Pt 3:15-17, 2 Tim 2:15, 3:16-17**)
  - b. Is it bizarre? Study and consider ways you might better understand. Don't twist! (**Rev 8:10-11, 16:5-6, Rev 9:17-19**)
5. The right question: What is God doing?
  - a. God spoke. What God said differs in time, audience, context, and instruction. Instead of asking, "hath God said," let God's words stand!
  - b. God does not change, but what he is doing and what he wants us to do does! (e.g. **1 Tim 4:1-3**)
  - c. Come to the Bible with faith that it is without mistake and the final authority. It means what it says. (**Tit 1:9, 2:1, 15**)
  - d. Recognize Paul's apostleship, the dispensation of grace, the revealed mystery of Christ and the gospel of Christ preached according to the mystery (**2 Tim 2:7, Ps 19:7**)