

## Introduction to the Gospel of Mark

### About the Author of the Gospel

The actual author of the Gospel of Mark, the whole Gospel from the beginning until the end, has only one author: the Holy Spirit; the words to put down in the Gospel itself came through the mercy of the Holy Spirit. The Lord has chosen Mark just because of his heart only not because of his intelligence; his heart that has been searching for the Lord from childhood, and he had followed that call within his heart. Even though some people thought that his name was not worthy of writing the Gospel, but what he got is all from the Lord and is reputed to be put down in the Bible. Many people had disagreed in the beginning when they included the Gospel of Mark in the Bible, it has been many suggestions that Mark did not get the Gospel from the Lord, but his word is from the Lord as we see the proof in that his Gospel is part of our Bible.

### Who is Mark?

Mark, the writer of the Gospel of Mark, is also called John the son of Mary, and in their house, early believers gathered together for prayer (See Acts 12:12). It has been most disagreement about Mark that he did not write the Gospel by himself, but also remember as well that he has been following the Lord for some time. Mark has been a witness to what the Lord has done, and his heart has been opened to receive the Holy Spirit for writing the Gospel down. Mark did not copy from anyone, and also, he did not write the Gospel down from learning or experience; the Holy Spirit gave to him what to write and how to connect each thing. We can notice how Mark describes the events, short but connecting, no mixing up or misplacements; it is a clear Gospel from the Holy Spirit. He followed the Lord with his own will, which is why he was chosen to write the Gospel down. Mark did meet the Lord Jesus as a young person following the Lord in behind; he did things around for helping; his name may not be mentioned, but he has been chosen because of his heart.

### How did Mark reach to the point of writing the Gospel?

After Mark has seen the Lord crucified, the Lord has spoken to him and has produced the fruit in his heart, and he followed that path; that is why he spent time doing this; we can say that he had a personal calling from the Lord to him. He was always curious about what the Lord can do and who the Lord is for him, and this made him write down what the Holy Spirit was leading him to write.

### Purpose of the Gospel

The Lord has a particular purpose for this Gospel. The group of people that have been cut off (outlawed people, outcast, not important people), the Gospel of Mark has been helping those people know what the Lord has done and the requirement of what the Lord expects from them. If you read carefully, you will notice the emphasis is towards some group of people, the short form used in this Gospel when we read; we should be able to link, it is short, but it has a broader meaning. For people with knowledge, the Gospel of Mark presents many missing links, helping people who believe they have an education of this world (not spiritual wisdom) to use this Gospel to understand.

### GOSPEL SUMMARY

The Holy Spirit has given both Gospels Matthew and Mark, Matthew for a specific reason, but in Mark, the Lord wants the proof for people around to see and link it for what the Lord has said; all the Gospels link and support each other.

**Chapter 1:** The introduction of the Lord Jesus by John the Baptist, the messenger, as the Son of God and the start of Jesus' ministry on earth.

**Chapter 2:** Jesus continues His ministry and teaches in the synagogues, heals on the Sabbath, and shows His authority as God and His equality with God by forgiving sins, so the Pharisees and the Scribes start accusing Him of blasphemy.

**Chapter 3:** Jesus continues to teach and heal on the Sabbath, showing that we must do good on the Sabbath; Jesus demonstrates His authority over the unseen world by casting out demons and giving authority to His disciples to cast out demons; the unseen world testifies of Him as the Son of God, but the Pharisees and the Scribes start to accuse Him of casting out demons, not by the power of God, and Jesus tells that whoever does that, blasphemes against the Holy Spirit and this sin will never be forgiven.

**Chapter 4:** Jesus teaches people in parables about the kingdom of God so that those that come with a sincere heart to seek the Lord will get understanding from the Lord and will not be confused by men's teachings; Jesus uses His Word to command "peace be still" to the sea, showing to His disciples that He has authority over the nature as well, making them think about "who really He is?"

**Chapter 5:** Jesus is the God of life. He has authority and power over the unseen and the seen world, and He can give faith and strength; Jesus strengthens Jairus' faith and the faith of the woman with the flow of blood by His Word; when the unclean touches the purer those that are unclean become clean because in Him the Law is complete.

**Chapter 6:** Jesus has become known, but He is rejected by His own people in His own town. Jesus has authority over life on earth and nature: He multiplies bread and fish to feed immense multitudes, and He walks on water and calms the storm; Jesus teaches the disciples how to carry their own cross, go out into the world without anything, humble themselves, be as a poor, but rich in the Word and humble in heart, serve the people with a willing heart, not complaining in doing work, accept their own duty.

**Chapter 7:** Jesus teaches about the difference between the traditions of men and the commandments of God. He points out that people tend to use traditions above the commandments of God. Jesus came to call first His people to come back to Him, but He shows mercy to all that ask. He heals the Syrophenician woman's daughter from a distance by His word. Jesus heals a man in a unique way showing that from within the Lord, there is the cure for all diseases; from within, the Lord can make the imperfect to become perfect.

**Chapter 8:** Jesus continues to travel and proclaim the Gospel, show mercy and teach. After Peter confesses the Lord Jesus as the Christ, Jesus begins to prepare His disciples about what might happen to Him. Jesus teaches the multitudes what it means to be His follower. Jesus warns us to be aware of false teachings which will spread false ways of thinking and false principles that will grow like weeds in the soul.

**Chapter 9:** The Lord Jesus again predicts His resurrection after suffering, the Lord tells us to have hope, He has concurred all, even death; as a follower of the Lord, concur your own fears as well, remember the death of flesh it means reborn into eternity, reborn with the Lord. After the transfiguration on the mountain, the Lord comes down and heals a boy with an unclean spirit teaching the disciples to pray. Then, answering questions from the disciples, the Lord teaches them about the kingdom of God: who is the greatest, the one that is not against us if for us, and to eliminate unworthy actions from our lives.

**Chapter 10:** As the time of departure of the Lord approaches, even though the Lord knows that His time is coming, this does not stop Him from traveling and teaching. Each day, the Lord works, meets people, heals, and teaches them. As He travels, the Lord teaches about divorce and Moses' law, the Kingdom of God, the love of riches on earth and the kingdom of God, His suffering, and what it means to be servants of the Lord. He Himself came down on earth to serve all humans and "give His life as a ransom for

many." As they were leaving Jericho, the Lord showed mercy to a blind beggar called Bartimaeus and healed him.

**Chapter 11:** The Lord Jesus enters Jerusalem riding on a colt to fulfill the prophecy about how He enters Jerusalem; the Holy Spirit stirs people's hearts as they shout out the "King is coming." Jesus goes into the temple and starts cleansing the temple by chasing all those that did not come for worship. As He and His disciples go back and forth between Jerusalem and Bethpage, Jesus curses the fig tree which withered immediately, and He teaches the disciples a lesson about faith. As they came again in the temple, the chief priests and the scribes, and the elders came and challenged the authority of Jesus.

**Chapter 12:** This chapter mainly concentrates on who Christ is and His will to save all, even those who will crucify Him. The power of this world is nothing, but all humans' eyes look for power on this earth. Jesus came to point the way to the other world, but they do not hear and understand. Jesus interacts with the leaders of people and teaches about: the parable of the tenants so they can think who Jesus really is, but they seek to arrest Him; the human duty towards God and government; the resurrection; who Christ is; corrupt leaders; and the offering to the Lord.

**Chapter 13:** As Jesus was sitting with His disciples on the Mount of Olives, He answered the questions about the temple buildings and the signs of His coming and the end of the age. There are a few significant signs and warnings the Lord gives us: the destruction of the current temple of the Lord (the Bible), and the coming of the fake bible; the building of a new temple according to the new fake bible that will not bring praising to God but will bring praising to men; the abomination will start by replacing the true Bible and lifting up the new fake bible as the true one.

**Chapter 14.** This chapter describes the beginning of the suffering of the Lord. Prior to the crucifixion, Jesus stayed: at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper where a woman anointed Him; in a house in the city where Jesus eats His last Passover with His disciples, and He institutes the Lord's Supper as a symbol for the new covenant in His blood; at a place on the Mount of Olives where the Lord tells His disciples that they will all fall away as it is written in the Scripture; at a place called Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives where the Lord goes to pray earnestly to the Father; at a place on the Mount of Olives where He is captured and betrayed; at the high priest palace where they condemn Him to death and begin to mock and abuse Him.

**Chapter 15.** The King of kings has been born but has been treated worse than the criminals. Jesus has been mocked, spit on, slapped back and forth, but He took all that abuse just because of His true love for humans: the leaders of the people delivered Jesus to Pilate, the governor; they stirred up the crowd to demand that Jesus be crucified; they took Jesus to a place called Golgotha, and at the third hour they crucified Him between two criminals; at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" and breathed His last; Joseph of Arimathea buried Him in a new tomb cut out of the rock.

**Chapter 16.** In this chapter, there are three essential events with specific purposes. 1) The resurrection of the Lord Jesus, the Lord, resurrected, is the purpose of our faith. 2) The appearance of the Lord Jesus to the select ones; the purpose of the Lord appearing after His resurrection is to strengthen their belief. 3) The Lord Jesus gave the commission to the disciples, which extends to all that call upon the name of the Lord, to "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation"; the purpose of the commission is to give the duty to all believers.