

The Gospel of Mark

Session 6 – Mar. 6th – Intro: Chapter 1:1-8

Summary of Mark 1:9-7:37 (Voelz)

A key phrase (_____) marks the transition out of the introduction and into the main portion of the gospel. Mark introduces all people who will be the characters of his dramatic telling of Jesus' life.

Jesus 1:9

Disciples 1:16-20

Jesus' Opponents:

Spiritual 1:23, 34

Human 3:21-22

We are also introduced to the roles of Jesus:

Son of Man (2:28), which means Jesus stands in for _____

Israel, which includes several aspects (see below) (1:9-11)

Yahweh himself (6:34, 48)

And we see of what His ministry consists:

_____ (1:14); _____ (1:21); & _____ (1:15, 7:37)

In this first half of the gospel of Mark we will see:

- A rapid rise in conflict both with the Jewish leadership and Jesus' own family.
- Jesus' response with the teaching of parables (that work both positively and negatively in the lives of the hearers).
- Yet, even his close followers don't fully grasp who He is or what He is doing.
- Jesus' bringing of the "kingdom" does not look as anticipated.
- Jesus' popularity rises, despite His efforts to remain unknown.
- John's execution foreshadows the direction of Jesus' mission and future.

v. 9

"And it came to pass in those days" = Times when the LORD is active, often eschatologically.

See Num. 10:11, Isa. 37:1; Jer. 31:27-31.

Mark says: Yahweh is active. In light of vv. 2-3, he's saying it's the _____ of the _____

v. 10

The Heavens are split. The bookends of Mark's gospel. What happens at the end of the gospel? (15:38) What was embroidered on it? (Josephus: "the tapestry was inscribed with all the heavenly spectacle except the Zodiac", *Jewish Wars*, 5.214). What does Isa. 63:19 ask? What is Mark telling us has happened with the arrival, death, & resurrection of Jesus?

"He saw..." Who is aware of the Holy Spirit? Who is not? Who *else* is aware?

[Audio drops out at this point due to battery failure. Sorry! The following answers are filled in since the discussion was lost.]

Why does the Holy Spirit take the form of a dove?

Gen. 8:8-12 and Gen. 1:2 draw the attentive mind to the theme of a **New Creation**.

See also, Song of Solomon 1:15. Later rabbinic commentary on Israel as a dove. (pg. 130, Voelz)

Again, we see **Jesus** as **Israel**, innocent and as a sacrifice.

Finally, Greco-Roman myth often had the gods interacting with people in the form of **birds**.

Mark makes His point clear to *all* his hearers, both Jews and Gentiles.