



Investigating the Word of God

Mark



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Mount Hermon

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An Introduction to the Gospel of Mark

The Author

The author of the book is John Mark, whose given name was John but whose Latin surname was Mark, the son of a wealthy family of Christians in Jerusalem. It seems he was reared in an atmosphere of culture and piety. He was the son of Mary, a friend of the apostles (Acts 12:12). Barnabas, Paul's friend and traveling companion, was his cousin (Colossians 4:10). Evidently younger than the apostles, at the time he wrote his gospel, he was most likely the youngest of the writers of the New Testament.

Mark was well-known to the disciples in Jerusalem. He worked with Paul and Barnabas and was said to have worked with the apostle Peter who referred to him as his "son" (1 Peter 5:13). He went with Paul and Barnabas on their first preaching journey but turned back in Asia Minor returning to Jerusalem (Acts 13:13). On the second trip, after Paul determined not to have him along, he and Barnabas sailed to Cyprus (Acts 15:36-41). He is mentioned some ten years later when in 2 Timothy 4:11 Paul commands Timothy to get Mark and bring him to Rome.

Mark supposedly died by being "dragged to pieces by the people of Alexandria, at the great solemnity of Serapis their idol" (*Fox's Book of Martyrs*, 3).

The Message of the Book

The book of Mark is an historical narrative which, though giving a representative picture of both the person and work of Jesus, emphasizes the person of Christ. As stated in 1:1, this gospel was written to show Jesus as the Son of God. It was written to Gentiles, particularly those in Rome, to convince them of the deity and mission of Christ. That it was written primarily to a Roman audience is evident in that, with the exception of Mark 1:2, there are no proofs drawn from the Old Testament.

Mark's book is the gospel of action. The Greek word *euthus*, which is variously translated "straightway," "immediately" and/or "forthwith," is used some 42 times. It seems that Mark is more concerned with deeds than words.

Some Exclusive Things in the Book

Since over 90 percent of the content of the book is found in Matthew and Luke, there are very few unique passages in it.

Incidents. The only incident peculiar to Mark is the flight of the young man (14:51-52).

Parables. Only one parable is unique to it – the growth of the seed (4:26-29).

Miracles. Two miracles are peculiar to it. They are the deaf and dumb man cured (7:31-37) and a blind man cured (8:22-36).

Special Considerations in the Book

Since Mark is a book of action, it has no prologue. It immediately launches into the narrative. As previously noted, it uses the Greek adverb *euthus* more than all the rest of the New Testament put together.

The book shows the responses of audiences to Jesus. 23 references are made to audience reactions to Jesus. Mark characterizes these responses as being “amazed,” “critical,” “afraid,” “puzzled,” “astonished,” “hostile,” etc.

Mark uses the historical present liberally. The text presents events in action rather than viewing them as a historical past. This makes the gospel seem vividly alive.

The Canon of 16:9-20

It is claimed this portion of the text is not authentic because it is not found in two of the oldest manuscripts – the Vatican and the Sinaitic. It is in practically all of the others – some 500 of them – including the Alexandrian which is next to the Vatican and Sinaitic in age and accuracy.

The passage was quoted by Irenaus in the second century. All of the ancient versions contain it which shows that it was in the Greek copies from which the translations were made. Included are the Peshito Syriac, Old Latin, Sahidic, and Coptic. All of these were in existence earlier than the two manuscripts that omit it. The same two manuscripts that leave out Mark 16:9-20 also omit the book of Revelation.

Dr. Arthur Farstad, commenting on this, said, “In 1881 two scholars, Brooke Foss Westcott and Fenton John Anthony Hort published a two-volume work, *The New Testament in the Original Greek*. In their work they relied heavily on the recently discovered Alexandrian manuscripts, Codex Vaticanus and Codex Sinaiticus, but especially Vaticanus. They assumed that these manuscripts were better because they were from an earlier date than any previously available... Until now, most new translations of the Scriptures since 1881 have used this type of Greek text as the basis for their New Testaments. The New King James Version departs from this recent tradition. It returns to the Textus Receptus. A growing number of scholars now recognize that the Byzantine-type text of the Textus Receptus is older than the age of the earliest extant Byzantine manuscripts. New Testament readings once thought to be uniquely Byzantine have been found in the papyri – the oldest extant manuscripts or fragments” (*Why the New King James Version?*, 14-15).

Mark Chapter One

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 14-15

“Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.’”

Key People

Jesus Christ
John (the Baptist)
Simon
Andrew
James
Zebedee
John
The scribes

Key Places

Judea
Jerusalem
Jordan River
Nazareth of Galilee
Sea of Galilee
Capernaum
Galilee

Key Words

Repentance
Remission
Baptized
Gospel
Sabbath
Synagogue
Astonished
Amazed
Authority
Leper

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. According to verses three and four:
 - a. What was the purpose of John’s preaching?
 - b. Where did he preach?
 - c. What did he preach?
2. Who came to hear John’s preaching? Upon hearing his preaching, what did they do? (v. 5)
3. How is John described in verse six? How does he describe to one who would come after him? (vv. 7-8)
4. According to verse nine, who came to be baptized of John? What happened as He was “coming up from the water?”
5. How did Jesus get to the wilderness? What happened to Him while there?
6. After John was imprisoned, what did Jesus do? (vv. 14-15)
7. What was the occupation of Simon and Andrew? What did Jesus call them to be? Who else followed Jesus? (vv. 16-20)
8. What did Jesus do when He went to Capernaum? What was the reaction of the reaction of the people? Why did they react that way? (vv. 21-22)
9. With what was a man who was in the synagogue of Capernaum possessed? What did Jesus do for him? What was the reaction to His act?
10. Where did Jesus go after He left the synagogue? Who did He find there? What was her problem? What did Jesus do for her?
11. Why, according to verse 34, did Jesus not allow the demons to speak?
12. Upon leaving Capernaum, where did Jesus go? Why did He go there? Where did He next plan on going? What was His purpose in going?
13. Who, in verse 40, came to Jesus? What showed his faith in Jesus? What did Jesus do for him?
14. What did Jesus warn the man in the above question not to do? What did He tell him to do?
15. According to verse 45, what did the man do? What was the result of his actions?

Matching

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. John | A. Tempted Jesus in the wilderness. |
| _____ 2. The Spirit | B. Ministered to Jesus in the wilderness. |
| _____ 3. Angels | C. Searched for Jesus. |
| _____ 4. Satan | D. Preached in the wilderness. |
| _____ 5. Simon | E. Drove Jesus to the wilderness. |

Discussion Question

Why do you think the cleansed leper was told, “See that you say nothing to anyone” about his cleansing except the priest?

Mark Chapter Two

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 17

“When Jesus heard it, He said to them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.’”

Key People

Jesus

Levi

Alphaeus

John (the Baptist)

David

Abiathar

Scribes

Pharisees

Key Places

Capernaum

Key Words

Paralytic

Blasphemies

Perceives

Tax collectors

Physician

Fast

Sabbath

Showbread

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Why were those who were carrying the paralytic unable to enter the house where Jesus was? How did they manage to gain entry?
2. What did Jesus do for the paralytic? Why did He do that?
3. Who objected to what Jesus had said to the paralytic? What was their objection? Since they did not state it, how did Jesus know it?
4. What did Jesus say His purpose was in saying what He did to the paralytic? (v. 10)
5. What was the reaction of the people to what had been done? (v. 12)
6. Who did Jesus see as He passed by a tax office? What did He say to him? What was his response?
7. What charge did the scribes and Pharisees level against Jesus when they saw Him dining in a tax collector’s house? What was Jesus’ answer?
8. What did Jesus answer when asked why His disciples did not fast?
9. What were the disciples of Jesus doing on the Sabbath as they passed through grainfields? What did the Pharisees think they were doing by this act? What was Jesus’ response?
10. How did Jesus refer to Himself in verses ten and twenty-eight?

Matching

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Paralytic | A. A tax collector. |
| ___ 2. Levi | B. Carried by four men. |
| ___ 3. John’s disciples | C. Plucked grain on the Sabbath. |
| ___ 4. Jesus’ disciples | D. A high priest. |
| ___ 5. Abiathar | E. Fasted. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------------------|
| T | F | 1. Jesus had power on earth to forgive sins. |
| T | F | 2. Alphaeus was the son of Levi. |
| T | F | 3. The disciples of John and Jesus fasted. |
| T | F | 4. New wine is put into new wineskins. |
| T | F | 5. It was lawful for David to eat the showbread. |

Discussion Question

What is meant by the term “Son of Man.”

Mark Chapter Three

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 35

“For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother.”

Key People

Jesus
Pharisees
Herodians
The Twelve
Scribes
Mother and brothers of Jesus

Key Places

Galilee
Judea
Jerusalem
Idumea
Jordan River
Tyre
Sidon

Key Words

Synagogue
Withered
Sabbath
Afflictions
Beelzebub
Plunder
Blasphemies
Blasphemes

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What physical problem did the man in the synagogue have?
2. Why was Jesus being closely watched? What question did He ask of those who were watching Him? What was their response?
3. What did the Pharisees and Herodians plot to do with Jesus?
4. Who followed Jesus when He withdrew to the sea? Why were they following Him?
5. When the unclean spirits saw Jesus, what were they crying out to Him? What was His warning to them?
6. For what purposes were “the twelve” appointed?
7. List the men who comprised “the twelve.”
8. What did “His own people” say about Jesus?
9. What did the scribes say about Jesus?
10. What was Jesus’ response to the accusations of the scribes?
11. What are the consequences when one blasphemes the Holy Spirit?
12. Who did Jesus say were His brother, sister and mother?

Matching

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ___ 1. “Step forward” | A. His own people to Jesus.. |
| ___ 2. “You are the Son of God” | B. Jesus to the multitude. |
| ___ 3. “He is out of His mind” | C. The scribes of Jesus. |
| ___ 4. “He has Beelzebub” | D. Jesus to the paralytic. |
| ___ 5. “Who is my mother...” | E. Unclean spirits to Jesus. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| T | F | 1. The Pharisees and Herodians plotted to get Jesus elected to political office. |
| T | F | 2. Jesus appointed the twelve while on a mountain. |
| T | F | 3. A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. |

Discussion Question

Does Jesus’ response in verses 34 and 35 mean that He had no regard for His mother or brothers in the flesh? Explain.

Mark Chapter Four

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 41

“And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, ‘Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!’”

Key People

Jesus

The Twelve

Key Places

The Sea (of Galilee)

Key Words

Parables

Sower

Wayside

Mystery

Kingdom

Perceive

Tribulation

Persecution

Deceitfulness

Sickle

Mustard seed

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Because the multitude was so great, what did Jesus do so He could teach them?
2. Briefly describe the parable of the sower.
3. Who did Jesus tell to hear His teachings?
4. Why, according to verse 12, was Jesus teaching in parables?
5. According to Jesus’ explanation of it, in the parable of the sower.
 - a. What does the sower sow?
 - b. What does the wayside soil represent?
 - c. What does the stony ground represent?
 - d. What does the seed sown among thorns represent?
 - e. What does the good ground represent?
6. What does Jesus say should be done with a lamp? What application does He make of that fact?
7. Why, according to verses 24 and 25, should take heed as to how he hears?
8. To what does Jesus liken the kingdom of God in verse 26?
9. To what does Jesus liken the kingdom of God in verse 31?
10. What happened while Jesus and His disciples were in a boat on the sea? What did the disciples do? In response to the disciples, what did Jesus do? Seeing what He did, what did the disciples ask?

Matching

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Sower | A. Birds devour seed sown on it. |
| ___ 2. Wayside | B. Seed choked out and yielded no crop. |
| ___ 3. Stony ground | C. Crop sprang up and produced. |
| ___ 4. Among thorns | D. Sows the word. |
| ___ 5. Good ground | E. Seed immediately springs up but soon scorches. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| T | F | 1. The seed which fell on good ground brought forth twentyfold. |
| T | F | 2. Those plants on the stony ground have no roots. |
| T | F | 3. A lamp is meant to be put under a basket. |
| T | F | 4. The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. |
| T | F | 5. In speaking to the multitudes, Jesus spoke only in parables. |

Discussion Question

What does it mean to be a fisher of men?

Mark Chapter Five

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 19

“However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, ‘Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you.’”

Key People

Gadarenes
Jesus
Jairus
Woman (with flow of blood)
Peter
James
John

Key Places

Country of Gadarenes
Decapolis
The Sea (of Galilee)

Key Words

Tombs
Shackles
Torment
Legion
Synagogue
Thronged
Physicians
Affliction
Tumult
Wailed
Commotion
Ridiculed
“Talitha, cumi”

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Who met Jesus when He came to the country of the Gadarenes? How is that person described in verses three through five?
2. Upon seeing Jesus, what did the man cry out?
3. What was the name of the unclean spirit? Why was that its name?
4. What did the demons beg of Jesus? How did Jesus respond? What then happened?
5. Why did the people ask Jesus to depart from their region?
6. What did the man who had been demon-possessed want to do? What did Jesus tell him to do? What does the man do after that?
7. Who was Jairus? What problem did he have?
8. As Jesus was going with Jairus, who touched Him? Why did this person touch Him?
9. How did Jesus react to being touched? What did the person who touched Him do in response to Jesus’ question?
10. What did Jesus tell this person in verse 34?
11. What was told Jairus in verse 35? In light of this, what did Jesus tell him?
12. Who accompanied Jesus to the house of Jairus?
13. What did Jesus see when He arrived at Jairus’ house? What did He tell those who were doing that? What was their response to Him?
14. What did Jesus do for the daughter of Jairus? What was her response? What was the reaction of the people who saw her?
15. What, in verse 43, did Jesus strictly command?

Matching

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Legion | A. “My little daughter lies at the point of death.” |
| ___ 2. Gadarenes | B. “If only I may touch His clothes.” |
| ___ 3. Jairus | C. “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” |
| ___ 4. Woman | D. “We are many.” |
| ___ 5. “Talitha, cumi” | E. Told Jesus to depart. |

Discussion Question

Why do you think Jesus allowed the demons to be cast into the swine?

Mark Chapter Six

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 4

“But Jesus said to them, ‘A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house.’”

Key People

Jesus
The disciples (The Twelve)
Mary
James
Jose
Judas
Simon
King Herod
John the Baptist
Elijah
Herodias
Philip

Key Places

“His own country”
Sodom
Gomorra
Bethsaida
Land of Gennesaret

Key Words

Sabbath
Synagogue
Offended
Prophet
Circuit
Tolerable
Apostles
Opportune
Compassion
Denarii
Fragments
Straining

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What was the reaction of the people when Jesus began to teach in the synagogue of “His own country?” How did He reply to those who questioned Him?
2. After leaving “His own country,” what did Jesus do?
3. After calling “the twelve” to Him, what did Jesus command them to do? What specific instructions did He give them in verses 8 through 11?
4. How did King Herod hear of Jesus? Who did he conclude Jesus was?
5. What had King Herod done with John the Baptist? Why did he do it?
6. What, in verse 30, did the apostles tell Jesus? What did He command them to do?
7. Who followed Jesus to a deserted place? Why was He moved with compassion for them?
8. How did Jesus feed the multitudes? How much was left over after they were done eating?
9. What happened to the disciples when they were on a boat in the middle of the sea? Who came to them? What did they think He was? What did He say to them?
10. What was the reaction to Jesus in the land of Gennesaret?

Matching

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Hearers in the synagogue | A. “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” |
| ___ 2. King Herod | B. “This is a deserted place, and already the hours is late.” |
| ___ 3. John the Baptist | C. “Where did this man get these things?” |
| ___ 4. Herodias | D. “John the Baptist is risen from the dead.” |
| ___ 5. The disciples | E. “The head of John the Baptist.” |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| T | F | 1. Jesus could do no mighty work in His own country. |
| T | F | 2. The disciples preached that people should repent. |
| T | F | 3. King Herodias had John the Baptist beheaded. |
| T | F | 4. The multitude Jesus fed numbered 5000 men and women. |
| T | F | 5. When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water, they thought He was a ghost. |

Discussion Question

How was the disciples’ heart hardened? (v. 52)

Mark Chapter Seven

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 15

“There is nothing that enters a man from outside which can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are the things that defile a man.”

Key People

Pharisees
Scribes
Jesus
The disciples
Isaiah
Moses
Syro-Phoenician woman

Key Places

Jerusalem
Tyre
Sidon
Decapolis
Sea of Galilee

Key Words

Tradition
Hypocrites
Corban
Defile
Impediment
Ephphatha

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. With what did the Pharisees and Sadducees find fault when they came to Jesus from Jerusalem?
2. What traditions, according to verses three and four, did the Pharisees and all the Jews practice? Why was that their practice?
3. What did Jesus call the Pharisees and Scribes? Why did He call them that? (vv. 6-8)
4. How, according to verses 9 through 13, did the Pharisees and Scribes “reject the commandment of God?”
5. According to Jesus:
 - a. What does not defile a person?
 - b. What does defile a person?
 - c. What evil things come from within a person?
6. While He was in the region of Tyre and Sidon, who came to Jesus and fell at His feet? What was her repeated request?
7. What was Jesus’ initial response to the one who fell at His feet? What was her reply? What, then, did Jesus do for her?
8. After leaving the region of Tyre and Sidon, where did Jesus go?
9. Who was brought to Jesus? What did Jesus do for him?
10. What was the reaction of those who saw what Jesus had done for the one who was brought to Him?

Matching

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. Pharisees and scribes | A. “This people honors Me with their lips.” |
| _____ 2. Isaiah | B. “Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders?” |
| _____ 3. Syro-Phoenician woman | C. “Honor your father and your mother.” |
| _____ 4. Jesus | D. “Ephphatha.” |
| _____ 5. Moses | E. “Yes, Lord, even the little dogs...eat from the children’s crumbs.” |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| T | F | 1. Some Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jericho. |
| T | F | 2. Isaiah said that teaching the commandments of men as doctrine makes worship vain. |
| T | F | 3. That which enters a person from outside defiles him. |
| T | F | 4. When Jesus entered a house in the region of Tyre and Sidon He wanted no one to know He was there. |
| T | F | 5. The people said that Jesus made the deaf speak and mute hear. |

Discussion Question

Why does teaching as doctrines the commandments of men make worship vain?

Mark Chapter Eight

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 34

“When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, ‘Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.’”

Key People

Jesus
The disciples
Pharisees
John the Baptist
Elijah
Peter
Elders
Chief priests
Scribes

Key Places

Dalmanutha
Bethsaida
Caesarea Philippi

Key Words

Compassion
Faint
Fragments
Dispute
Sign
Generation
Leaven
Rebuked

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Why did Jesus have compassion on the multitude? How did He solve their problem?
2. While Jesus was in the region of Dalmanutha, what did the Pharisees begin to do? What did they ask of Him? What was His response?
3. Of what did Jesus tell His disciples to beware? (v. 15) About what did they think he was talking? What was His response to them?
4. Who was brought to Jesus when He went to Bethsaida? What did He do for him? How did He do it?
5. While at Caesarea Philippi, what did Jesus ask His disciples? What was their answer? What was Jesus' next question to them? What was Peter's answer?
6. What did Jesus begin to teach His disciples? (v. 31) What was Peter's reaction to this teaching? What, then, did Jesus say to Peter?
7. What, in verse 34, did Jesus say was required to follow Him?
8. According to verse 35, what will happen to the one who:
 - a. Desires to save his life?
 - b. Loses his life for the sake of Jesus and the gospel?
9. What does Jesus say about the soul in verses 36 and 37?
10. Of whom will Jesus be ashamed when He comes in His Father's glory?

Matching

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Pharisees | A. Would reject Jesus. |
| ___ 2. The multitude | B. Fed by seven loaves and a few small fish. |
| ___ 3. Blind man | C. Sought a sign. |
| ___ 4. Peter | D. Begged Jesus to touch him. |
| ___ 5. Elders, chief priests, scribes | E. “You are the Christ.” |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| T | F | 1. The disciples had seventeen loaves of bread. |
| T | F | 2. The Pharisees began to dispute with Jesus in the region of Tyre and Sidon. |
| T | F | 3. Jesus warned His disciples to beware of the leaven of Herod. |
| T | F | 4. Jesus spat on the eyes of a blind man in Bethsaida. |
| T | F | 5. Jesus said He would be killed and rise again the second day. |

Discussion Question

What does it mean to deny oneself?

Mark Chapter Nine

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 2-3

“Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them.”

Key People

Jesus
Peter
James
John
Elijah
Moses
The disciples
Scribes

Key Places

Galilee
Capernaum

Key Words

Transfigured
Rabbi
Tabernacle
Maimed
Quenched
Lame
Seasoned

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What did Jesus say about the kingdom in verse one?
2. What happened to Jesus when He took Peter, James and John on a high mountain? Who else appeared with them?
3. While on the mountain, what did Peter suggest they do? Why did he suggest that?
4. Who answered Peter? What did He say?
5. When coming down the mountain, what did Jesus command Peter, James and John to do?
6. When Jesus came down from the mountain, what did one of the crowd say to Him? What was Jesus' reaction upon hearing this? What did He do for the man?
7. Why could not the disciples cast an unclean spirit out of a boy?
8. What, in verse 31, did Jesus tell His disciples would happen to Him? What was their reaction?
9. While in Capernaum, what did Jesus ask His disciples? Why did they not answer Him?
10. Who did Jesus say would be greatest?
11. What did John tell Jesus in verse 38: What was Jesus' response?
12. How did Jesus emphasize the importance of not causing one of the little ones who believed in Him to stumble?
13. What should you do if:
 - a. Your hand causes you to sin? Why?
 - b. Your foot causes you to sin? Why?
 - c. Your eye causes you to sin? Why?
14. Are the commands in the above question to be taken literally? What is Jesus really teaching?
15. What, in verse 50, did Jesus tell His disciples to have?

Matching

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Some standing before Jesus | A. Had a son with an unclean spirit. |
| ___ 2. Peter | B. Will not die before seeing the kingdom come. |
| ___ 3. One of the crowd | C. Disputed as to who was greatest. |
| ___ 4. His disciples | D. Forbade a man from casting out demons. |
| ___ 5. John | E. Wanted to build three tabernacles. |

Discussion Question

What do you think was the purpose of the transfiguration?

Mark Chapter Ten

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 45

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Key People

Jesus
Pharisees
Moses
The disciples
Peter
Chief priests
Scribes
James
John
Zebedee
Bartimaeus
Timaeus
David

Key Places

Judea
Jordan River
Jerusalem
Jericho
Nazareth

Key Words

Divorce
Precept
Mock
Scourge
Baptism
Ransom
Rabboni

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What did the Pharisees ask of Jesus? (v. 2) What did He ask of them? What was their response?
2. What did Jesus say was God’s intention from the beginning of creation in reference to marriage?
3. What did Jesus say about divorce in verses 11 and 12?
4. Why did Jesus allow the “little children” to come to Him? What did He say one must receive “as a little child?”
5. What question was asked of Jesus by one who knelt before Him on the road? What did Jesus tell him to do? What was the man’s response?
6. What did Jesus tell the man on the road he lacked? What was the man’s response?
7. Who did Jesus say would have a hard time entering the kingdom of God? What illustration did He use to show how hard it would be?
8. What did Jesus say would be given to those who had left all and followed Him?
9. What did Jesus tell the disciples would happen to Him in Jerusalem?
10. What did James and John ask of Jesus? What was His response? What was the reaction of the other ten disciples?
11. Who did Jesus say would be great among the disciples?
12. Why did Jesus say He had come to earth?
13. What did Bartimaeus ask of Jesus? How was he asking?
14. What did the people warn Bartimaeus to do? What was his response to this warning?
15. What did Jesus do for Bartimaeus?

True - False

- T F 1. What God has joined together, man is not to separate.
T F 2. Jesus forbid the young children to come to Him.
T F 3. It is easier for a goat to go through a camel’s eye than for a poor man to enter heaven.
T F 4. The sons of Zebedee wanted to sit one on the right hand and one on the left hand in Jesus’ glory.
T F 5. Bartimaeus called Jesus “Son of Joseph.”

Discussion Question

Why do you think it is so difficult for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven?

Mark Chapter Eleven

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 24

“Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.”

Key People

Jesus

David

The twelve

Scribes

Chief priests

Peter

The elders

John (the Baptist)

Key Places

Jerusalem

Bethphage

Bethany

Mount of Olives

Key Words

Colt

Hosanna

Rabbi

Withered

Authority

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Where did Jesus send two of His disciples? Why did He send them there?
2. What were these two disciples to say if someone asked them what they were doing?
3. What use was made of that which the two disciples brought to Jesus?
4. What was done for Jesus as He rode along the road? What was being said to Him?
5. Since the hour was later when Jesus went into Jerusalem, what did He do?
6. While on His way from Bethany to Jerusalem, what did Jesus say to a fig tree? Why did He say that?
7. What did Jesus do when He arrived at the temple? After doing that, what did He say to those who were in the temple?
8. Upon hearing what Jesus said in the temple, what did the scribes and chief priests want to do? Why did they not do it?
9. Upon passing the same fig tree, what did Peter observe concerning it? What lesson did Jesus teach based on this observation?
10. What did Jesus teach about forgiveness in verses 25 and 26?
11. What question did the chief priests, scribes and elders ask of Jesus? (v. 27)
12. What question did Jesus then ask of the chief priests, scribes and elders?
13. What did the chief priests, scribes and elders reason among themselves as to how to answer Jesus' question? How did they finally answer Him?
14. What was Jesus' final statement to the chief priests, scribes and elders?

Matching

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Two disciples | A. Spread their clothes on the road. |
| ___ 2. Many | B. Their tables were overturned. |
| ___ 3. Others | C. Sought to destroy Jesus. |
| ___ 4. Money changers | D. Secured a colt for Jesus. |
| ___ 5. Scribes & chief priests | E. Cut down branches from the tree. |
| ___ 6. The people | F. Feared by the chief priests, scribes and elders. |

Discussion Question

Why was it important for the baptism of John to be “from heaven?”

Mark Chapter Twelve

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 10-11

“The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?”

Key People

Jesus
Pharisees
Herodians
Caesar
Sadducees
Moses
Abraham
Isaac
Jacob
Scribes
David

Key Places

The temple
Jerusalem

Key Words

Parables
Vintage-time
Chief cornerstone
Denarius
Hypocrisy
Resurrection
Offspring
Pretense
Mites
Quadrans

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Briefly describe the parable found in verses one through nine.
2. Who is the “chief cornerstone” mentioned in verse 11?
3. Who sought to lay hands on Jesus? (See ch. 11:27) Why did they want to do that? Why did they not do it?
4. What question did the Pharisees and Herodians ask of Jesus in order to “catch Him in His words?”
5. Briefly summarize Jesus’ answer to the question of the Pharisees and Herodians. What was their reaction to His answer?
6. What did the Sadducees ask Jesus? (Briefly summarize.)
7. What was Jesus’ answer to the Scribe’s question?
8. How, in verses 26 and 27, did Jesus prove there is a resurrection of the dead?
9. What did one of the scribes ask Jesus? What was Jesus’ answer?
10. What was the response of the scribe to Jesus’ answer? What did Jesus tell him that his response showed? (v. 34)
11. What was the reaction of all the people to Jesus’ response? (v. 34)
12. What did David call “the Christ?” What is Jesus’ point in this reference to David?
13. How did the “common people” view Jesus?
14. Of whom did Jesus tell the people to beware? Why were they to beware of them? What were they to receive?
15. Why did Jesus commend the widow who only gave two mites into the treasury?

Matching

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Vinedressers | A. Sought to lay hold on Jesus. |
| ___ 2. Chief priests, scribes, elders | B. Asked which was the greatest commandment. |
| ___ 3. Pharisees and Herodians | C. Asked about taxes. |
| ___ 4. Sadducees | D. Killed the son. |
| ___ 5. One of the scribes | E. Asked about the resurrection |

Discussion Question

What is the function of a chief cornerstone? How is Jesus “the chief cornerstone?”

Mark Chapter Thirteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 31

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”

Key People

Jesus

Great multitude

The disciples

Peter

James

John

Andrew

David

Key Places

Jerusalem

Mount of Olives

Judea

Key Words

Rumors

Premeditate

Betray

Abomination of desolation

Tribulation

Elect

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What did one of His disciples say to Jesus as they were leaving the temple? What did Jesus tell him?
2. While on the Mount of Olives, what did Peter, James, John and Andrew ask Jesus?
3. In response to the above question:
 - a. Why were they to “take heed?” (v. 5)
 - b. Of what will they hear? What is to be their reaction? (v. 6)
 - c. What will happen to them? (v. 9)
 - d. What must be preached? (v. 10)
 - e. When arrested, how will they know what to say? (v. 11)
 - f. Who will be betrayed? By whom will they be betrayed? (v. 12)
 - g. Who will be saved? (v. 13)
4. When were those in Judea to flee to the mountains?
5. What will occur in “those days?” (v. 19)
6. Why has God “shortened those days?”
7. According to verses 21 and 22, who will “rise?” What will they do?
8. After that tribulation, what will occur? (vv. 24-27)
9. When, according to verse 30, will these things take place?
10. What will “pass away?” What will not “pass away?” (v. 31)
11. Who knows the day and hour when these things will take place?
12. Because of these things, what should the disciples be doing? (vv. 33-37)

True - False

- T F 1. Jesus said all the stones of the temple would be thrown down.
T F 2. The abomination of desolation was spoken of by Jeremiah.
T F 3. Heaven and earth will pass away.

Matching

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Disciples | A. Rise and show signs to deceive. |
| ___ 2. Abomination of desolation | B. Speak for disciples. |
| ___ 3. Holy Spirit | C. Knows the day and hour these things will take place. |
| ___ 4. False Christs | D. Hated by all men. |
| ___ 5. Father | E. Standing where it ought not. |

Discussion Question

Why would the disciples be hated by all men?

Mark Chapter Fourteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 36

“And He said, ‘Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.’”

Key People

Jesus
Chief priests
Scribes
Simon the leper
Judas Iscariot
The disciples
Peter (Simon)
James
John
Elders
High priest

Key Places

Bethany
Mount of Olives
Galilee
Gethsemane
Nazareth

Key Words

Passover
Feast of unleavened bread
Trickery
Alabaster flask
Spikenard
Indignant
Fragrant
Betray
Covenant
Stumble
Abba
Temptation
Rabbi
Blasphemy

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What were the chief priests and scribes plotting in regards to Jesus? Why did they not carry out their plot?
2. Who came to Jesus while He was at the house of Simon the leper in Bethany? What did she do for Him?
3. Who objected to the act of the woman? What was their objection? What was Jesus' response to their objection?
4. Who went to the chief priests? What was his purpose in going?
5. Why did Jesus send two of His disciples “into the city?”
6. Who, in verses 18 and 20, did Jesus say would betray Him? What did Jesus say would have been good for the one who betrayed Him? (v. 21)
7. In verses 22 through 24, what did Jesus say bread and the cup were?
8. What would happen to Jesus' disciples that night? (v. 17) What was Peter's reaction to this? In response to Peter, what did Jesus tell him?
9. For what did Jesus pray in Gethsemane? What were Peter, James and John doing while Jesus prayed? What warning did He give them? (v. 38)
10. After praying three times, what did Jesus tell Peter, James and John to do? Why did He tell them what was going to happen to Him?
11. Who came to Jesus while He was still speaking to Peter, James and John? Who accompanied him?
12. What signal did Jesus' betrayer give to identify Him?
13. When Jesus was arrested:
 - a. According to verse 47, what did one of His disciples do?
 - b. What question did He ask of those who were arresting Him?
 - c. What did all the disciples do? (v. 50)
14. Who followed Jesus? What happened to him?
15. Where was Jesus taken? Who followed Him at a distance?
16. What did the chief priest and council seek in regards to Jesus? What could they find?
17. What kind of witness was born against Jesus? What problem did they have in their testimony? (v. 59)
18. What did the high priest ask Jesus?
19. Who did Jesus tell the high priest He was? What was the high priest's reaction to this? What were the reactions of others?
20. What was asked of Peter? Who asked him? What was his response? How many times did he respond in that way? What, in thinking of his response, did he do? Why did he do it?

Discussion Question

Why are the bread and cup such fitting representations of the body and blood of Christ?

Mark Chapter Fifteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 39

“ So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, ‘Truly this Man was the Son of God!’”

Key People

Jesus
Chief priests
Elders
Scribes
Pilate
Barabbas
Simon, a Cyrenian
Alexander
Rufus
Two robbers
Elijah
Centurion
Mary Magdalene
Mary, mother of James and Joses
Salome
Joseph of Arimathea

Key Places

Praetorium
Golgotha
Galilee

Key Words

Consultation
Crucify
Gratify
Scourged
Garrison
Myrrh
Inscription
Transgressors
Reviled
Preparation Day

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. To whom was Jesus delivered in the morning? What did he ask Jesus? What was His reply?
2. Of what did the chief priests accuse Jesus? What was His response?
3. What, according to verse six, was a custom at the feast? Who did the crowd ask to be released? Why did they ask for this person? (v. 11)
4. What did the crowd want done to Jesus? (vv. 12-14) Why was this done for them? (v. 15)
5. Where was Jesus then led? What was done to Him there?
6. Who was compelled to carry the cross of Jesus?
7. Where was Jesus crucified? What was initially given to Him there? What was His response?
8. What inscription was placed on Jesus' cross?
9. Who were crucified with Jesus? What prophecy did that fulfill?
10. While He was on the cross, what were others saying to Jesus? (vv. 29-32)
11. What happened at the sixth hour?
12. What happened at the ninth hour?
13. What did the centurion who stood opposite Jesus say of Him when He died?
14. Who, according to verses 40 through 44, were looking on from afar?
15. Who requested the body of Jesus? Where did he take it? Who observed this?

Matching

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Pilate | A. Looked on from afar. |
| ___ 2. Barabbas | B. Released to the crowd. |
| ___ 3. Simon, a Cyreneian | C. Was given the body of Jesus. |
| ___ 4. Mary Magdalene | D. Had Jesus scourged. |
| ___ 5. Joseph of Arimathea | E. Compelled to carry Jesus' cross. |

Discussion Question

What do you think Jesus meant when He cried out, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

Mark Chapter Sixteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 15-16

“And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.’”

Key People

Mary Magdalene

Mary the mother of James

Salome

Jesus

The disciples

Peter

Key Places

Nazareth

Galilee

Key Words

Sabbath

Mourned

Creature

Baptized

Condemned

Tongues

Confirming

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Who came to Jesus' tomb early on the first day of the week? Why did they go there?
2. What question did those who went to His tomb ask among themselves? What did they see upon arrival at the tomb?
3. Who did those who went to His tomb see upon entering the tomb? What did he tell them? What, then, were they to do?
4. Why did those who came to the tomb not tell anyone what had taken place?
5. When did Jesus arise from the dead? To whom did He first appear? (vv. 9-10) To whom did He appear after that? (vv. 12-13)
6. What did Jesus do when He appeared to His disciples? Why? (v. 14)
7. When He appeared to His disciples, what did Jesus command them to do?
8. What would be the signs that would follow those who believe?
9. After speaking to His disciples, what happened to Jesus?
10. What, according to verse 20, did the disciples of Jesus do?

True - False

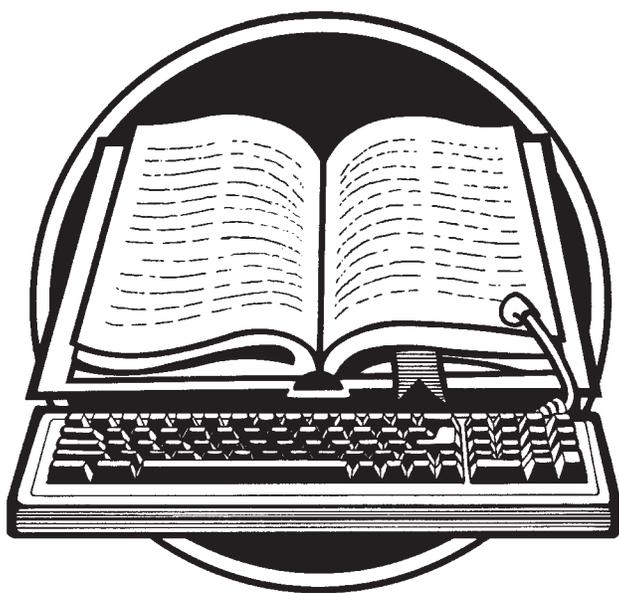
- T F 1. Salome went by herself to the tomb of Jesus.
- T F 2. After His resurrection, Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene.
- T F 3. Jesus rebuked His disciples because of their laziness.
- T F 4. He who believes and is baptized will be saved.
- T F 5. Those who believed would have signs follow them.
- T F 6. Jesus was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.

Matching

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Jesus | A. Accompanied Mary Magdalene to the tomb. |
| ___ 2. Salome | B. Did not believe Mary Magdalene. |
| ___ 3. Seven demons | C. Appeared first to Mary Magdalene. |
| ___ 4. Disciples | D. Had possessed Mary Magdalene |

Discussion Question

Why was it important for Jesus to be raised from the dead?



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