

Mark chapter 1

Why does Mark begin his story about Jesus by talking about Isaiah and John?

The first mention Mark makes of Jesus is in connection with a miraculous event; what separates this one from the other miracles described later? [9-13]

Verse 14 begins "Now after John was imprisoned", why does Mark include that detail here? Now that Jesus has been introduced, what does he *do* (compare verse 38)? How is his message different from that of his predecessor, John?

What did the people want Jesus to do? what did Jesus want to do?

Mark chapter 8

In verses 14-21 Jesus asks about how many baskets of food had been collected at previous events; was He really concerned about the numbers?

In verses 27-30 is Jesus checking up on his poll numbers? What was he really trying to do?

What event is spoken of in verse 38? (see also Matthew 25:31)

Mark chapter 14

Are Jesus' comments in verse 7 inconsistent with his teaching and his actions elsewhere?

Is there a problem with the veracity of the details described in 32-42?

According to Jesus, why did the Sanhedrin have him arrested in the middle of the night?

Jesus confesses directly that he is the Christ [62]; why was this so incendiary? How is it different from what has happened in Mark's telling of the story up to this point?

Next week: Luke chapters 4, 15, and 19.

Philippians 2:7 -- "but emptied himself by taking on the form of a slave, by looking like other men, and by sharing in human nature."

Isaiah 42:1 -- "Here is my servant whom I support, my chosen one in whom I take pleasure. I have placed my spirit on him; he will make just decrees for the nations.

Isaiah 49:5-6 -- So now the Lord says, the one who formed me from birth to be his servant - he did this to restore Jacob to himself, so that Israel might be gathered to him; and I will be honored in the Lord's sight, for my God is my source of strength - ^{49:6} he says, "Is it too insignificant a task for you to be my servant, to reestablish the tribes of Jacob, and restore the remnant of Israel? I will make you a light to the nations, so you can bring my deliverance to the remote regions of the earth."

Isaiah 52:13 -- "Look, my servant will succeed! He will be elevated, lifted high, and greatly exalted -

Mark 5:41 -- Then, gently taking the child by the hand, he said to her, "*Talitha koum*," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up."

Mark 7:1-4 -- Now the Pharisees and some of the experts in the law who came from Jerusalem gathered around him. ^{7:2} And they saw that some of Jesus' disciples ate their bread with unclean hands, that is, unwashed. ^{7:3} (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they perform a ritual washing, holding fast to the tradition of the elders. ^{7:4} And when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. They hold fast to many other traditions: the washing of cups, pots, kettles, and dining couches.)

Mark 1:1 -- The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Mark 9:31 -- for he was teaching his disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man will be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise."

Mark 10:45 -- For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Greek *euthus* (immediately, straightway, straightforward, direct) appears ten times in chapter 1 alone: 10, 12, 18, 20, 21, 23, 28, 30, 42, 43.