

Correspondence Bible Study

Lesson #34 – Mark

PRAYER:

Dear Jesus, let me be like Mark. Help me to listen to those who teach of Jesus and His love. Show me Your patience as I continue to grow in faith and understanding. Make me bold to witness of the power of Christ in my life. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, I pray. Amen.

Notes on Mark:

We assume the writer is the Mark of Paul's first missionary journey of Acts 13:13. He and Paul parted company because of some disagreement. He is also known as John or John Mark. It took a while, but apparently Mark and Paul reconciled as would be indicated in 2 Timothy 4:11. It is thought that Mark learned much of the information provided in the gospel from the time he spent traveling and working with Peter. Possibly, the gospel would have been written during the persecution of the Roman Church by Nero in A.D. 64-67. It is thought Peter was in Rome at the time and Mark was with him. If the target audience of the gospel is the gentile Roman, it would explain Mark's emphasis on suffering and show the need Mark seems to have to explain the Jewish holidays and to translate the Aramaic words. Some say that Mark autographs his work by the mention of the young man in the garden who ran away naked (14:51) when Jesus was arrested. Mark's gospel is one of action. It concentrates more on what Jesus did than what He said.

Questions on Mark:

Concentrating on the life of Christ from His baptism to just before His entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

1. Chapter 1:9-13 Show how all three persons of the Trinity were present at the baptism of Jesus.
2. Chapters 1:14-20 and 3:13-19 – List the 12 disciples. What impression do you have of the kind of men they were?
3. Chapter 1:21-2:12 – What was Jesus' reason for the many healings and miracles?
4. Chapter 3:20-30 – What is a very basic truth Jesus is expressing in these verses; especially in 3:23?

5. Chapter 4:1-34 has a number of Jesus' parables. Parables are stories that drive home one main point. The parable of the Sower is one of the few that Jesus explains its exact meaning. Can you see yourself as any of the four types of seeds of the parables?

6. Chapter 5:1-20 – This story of the demon-possessed man is important. With all the talk of Satanists and occult, it is important to carefully note the events here. One thing to remember is that if you ever are worried that you may be possessed by one of Satan's demons, you would not be. Someone controlled by Satan would never think of Christ or be worried about it. Another thing to remember is that the power of Satan and his demons is no match at all for Christ. Satan is now already defeated.

7. Chapters 6:30-44 & 8:1-13 – What does Jesus show us about His concern for our physical welfare in these miracles? What wrong idea might have the people gotten from these miracles?

8. Chapter 7:1-23 – the Pharisees, Sadducees and Scribes were groups that evolved with the Jewish nation during the intertestamental period. Their strict adherence and devotion to the Law was taken to such an extreme that when Christ came, He did not fit their idea of the Savior-Messiah. What were some of the things Jesus says here to show them that they had distorted the Law of God?

9. Chapter 9:1-13 – On the Mt. of Transfiguration, Jesus pulls back the veil hiding His divinity for His three closest disciples to see. Why do you think it was important? (see Peter 1:16-18)

10. Chapter 10:17-31 – Is there anything in your life that may be keeping you from being all that the Lord wants you to be? What comfort does 10:27 give you?

Your questions on Mark...