

WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM MARK?

- Chapter 1 That his work is a gospel (good news) about one named Jesus who is the Christ, the Son of God (1:1).
- John, his forerunner, and Jesus preached repentance and the kingdom of God.
- Jesus has power over disease and the demonic as “the Holy One of God” (1:24).
- Chapter 2:1-3:6 The religious leaders came into open conflict with the ministry, message, and miracles of Jesus (five Galilean controversies).
- The common people were amazed at Jesus.
- Chapter 4 Jesus used parables to teach concerning the kingdom of God to reveal and conceal its truth.
- Chapter 5 Jesus continued to demonstrate His authority over the deep (4:35-41), demonic (5:1-20), disease (5:21-35), and death (5:36-43).
- Chapter 6 Those close to Jesus rejected Him (His own home, Nazareth 6:1-6).
- That Jesus chose 12 (3:13-19) and sent them out with His message and authority (6:7-13).
- That followers of Jesus may suffer for their commitment to Him (John the Baptist 6:14-29).
- That little becomes much in the hands of the Master (5,000 fed 6:30-43).
- That Jesus was revealed as God in the presence of the disciples (He walked on water 6:45-56).
- Chapter 7 The Word of God has authority over the traditions of man (7:1-13).
- That God is concerned most about the internal, not the external (7:14-23).
- That faith, no matter where it is found, pleases God (even a Gentile woman 7:24-30).
- Chapter 8 Spiritual understanding sometimes requires repeated instruction, especially for dull and slow learners!!!

8:27-10:52 Passion (three predictions) and discipleship (three discourses) are essential to the believer's life, and are founded upon who Jesus is (the Christ 8:29) and what He came to do (give His life as a ransom in service 10:45).

*We are called also to a life of service as we deny self, take up our cross and follow Him.

Chapter 11-16 The climax of Mark's gospel (2/5 of it) is the passion of Jesus which concludes in his death, burial and resurrection.

Chapter 11 Jesus entered Jerusalem paradoxically (on a donkey), cleansed the temple, and prophesied concerning Israel (the fig tree).

*As there was a controversy in Galilee (2:1-3:6) with the religious leaders, so there is the same in Jerusalem (11:27-12:44).

Chapter 13 Jesus predicted what the end of the age will be like in light of the near and coming destruction of Jerusalem (A.D. 70).

Chapter 14 A woman again demonstrated the greater spiritual insight (14:1-9) while the disciples continued their career of failure.

That Passover (and unleaven bread) was the occasion for our Lord inaugurating the new covenant via His supper.

In our Lord's greatest hour of need, those closest to him betrayed Him (Judas), denied Him (Peter), and forsook Him [REMEMBER OUR ROMAN AUDIENCE AND THEIR SITUATION!]

Chapter 15 Although the Romans ultimately crucified Christ, the religious leaders of Israel were the driving force to see Him dead.

Paradoxically, Jesus dies as "King of the Jews."

Paradoxically, Jesus who died as "King of the Jews" was confessed by a Roman Gentile Centurion to truly be "the Son of God" (15:34).

Chapter 15:40 At his death, women, not the disciples, were near.

Chapter 16:8 In his resurrection, women, not the disciples, were informed.

In the end, Jesus the Christ, the Son of God, rose from the dead, sent word to His followers (including Peter! 16:7), and led the way for future ministry (16:7).

As in the beginning so at the end, our Lord's followers were amazed at Him and the events which surrounded His life (16:8).