



ANNOUNCEMENT:
 Second Quarter/eleveth of Thirteen Sundays

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
New Testament #2
Mark

Key Themes

- The Gospel. Mark introduces his work as “the beginning of the gospel”—the “good news” of salvation prophesied by Isaiah (1:1-3).
- The Kingdom of God. The content of the gospel is the kingdom, or “reign,” of God (1:14-15). While God is and has always been king of the universe, Jesus announces that God’s end-time salvation—his sovereign reign—is arriving through Jesus’ words and deeds.
- Jesus the Authoritative Christ and Son of God. Jesus’ authority in teaching and healing confirms that he is indeed the mighty Messiah. Jesus the Servant of the Lord. Though the mighty Messiah and Son of God, Jesus’ role at his first coming is not to conquer but to suffer and die as the righteous Servant of the Lord predicted by Isaiah the prophet (Isa. 53).
- A Call for Cross-bearing Discipleship. True disciples of Jesus are not to seek honor and power but to take up their cross, following their Master through sacrifice and suffering (10:45).

Author

John Mark, son of Mary of Jerusalem, cousin of Barnabas, missionary companion of the apostle Paul, and later companion to the apostle Peter.

Recipients

A suffering church—perhaps in Rome during persecutions by Nero (about AD 64).

Interesting Facts about Mark

- For its length Mark relates more miracles of Jesus than the other gospels.
 - Mark delights in a literary device known as “intercalation,” where one story is interrupted by another and the two mutually interpret each other. See the examples in 5:21-43 and 11:12-23.

Valentine's Day is Monday!

A friend sent this to me via email and asked that I help send it



around the world.

loVed
 gAve
 onLy
 BegottEn
 SoN
 That
 In
 Not
 Everlasting

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”