

In Christ, God has done for us what we could never do for ourselves. He has taken our sins on himself, forgiven us, reconciled us with himself and made us a new creation in Christ—redeemed, healed in mind, spirit and body and perfectly unified with him. Though we do not yet see what he has made us to be in Christ, we can trust his word that at his appearing, we will be like him (1 John 3:2).

In our own temptations, then, we can take heart. Christ is with us, drawing us to him and away from sin, but when we do sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous One, who not only set the example for us, but also made atonement for the sins of the whole world, including ours (1 John 2:1-2).

Trust him. He did it for you!

TAKEAWAY

Discussion Questions—Mark 1:12-13

1. What are the areas of temptation in your life?
In other words, which struggles make you feel alone in the wilderness? What are your “beasts”?
2. How does adding or subtracting this behavior, thought, commitment, etc. to or from your life help you to refocus your desires?
3. What is the importance of knowing scripture when facing temptations?

ANSWERS: 1) Spirit; 2) forty; 3) wild; 4) ministering

SERMON SERIES: GOSPEL OF MARK

Pastor Harry Jones
Sunday, March 3, 2024



Key memory verse: Mark 10:45 (ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many”

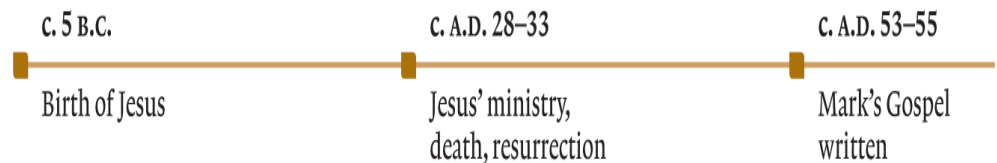
Week 4: The Old Testament Prophets and the Gospels (PART 2)

Week 5: Aspects of John’s Ministry (Mark 1:4-8)

Week 6: The Inauguration of Jesus’ Ministry (Mark 1:14-20)

Week 7: A Father’s Love for His Son (Mark 1:9-11)

Week 8: The testing of Jesus, the Son of God (Mark 1:12-13)



Outline

The Presentation of the servant	The servant’s ministry in Galilee	The servant’s journey to Jerusalem	The servant’s ministry in Jerusalem
Mark 1:1-13	Mark 1:14-9:50	Mark 10	Mark 11-16

Sermon Notes

AUTHOR, DATE, AND RECIPIENTS

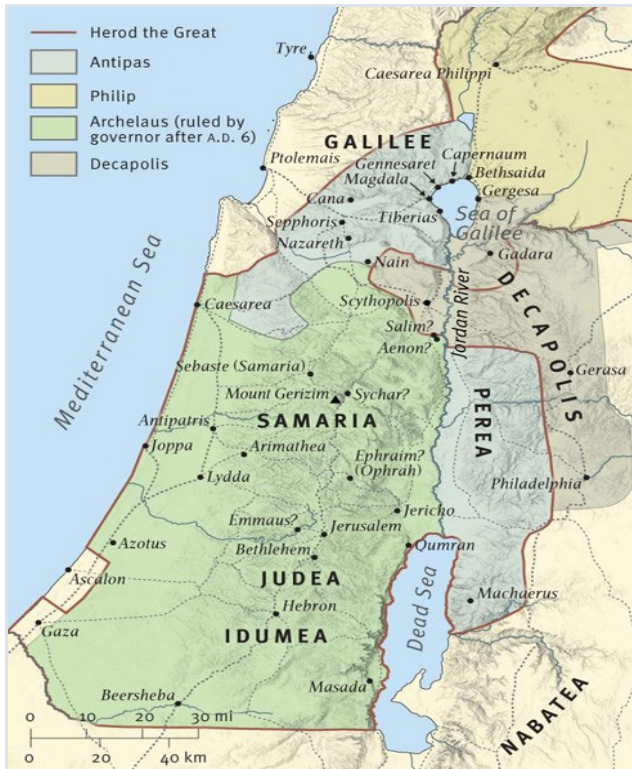
The apostle Peter passed on reports of the words and deeds of Jesus to his attendant, John Mark, who wrote this Gospel for the wider church as the record of Peter's apostolic testimony. The book was likely written from Rome during the mid- to late-50s A.D. (though the mid- or late-60s is also possible). Mark's audience, largely unfamiliar with Jewish customs, needed to become familiar with such customs in order to understand the coming of Jesus as the culmination of God's work with Israel and the entire world, so Mark explains them.

PURPOSE AND THEME

The ultimate purpose and theme of Mark's Gospel is to present and defend Jesus' universal call to discipleship. Mark returns often to this theme, categorizing his main audience as either followers or opponents of Jesus. Mark presents and supports this call to discipleship by narrating the identity and teaching of Jesus. For Mark, discipleship is essentially a relationship with Jesus, not merely following a certain code of conduct. Fellowship with Jesus marks the heart of the disciple's life, and this fellowship includes trusting Jesus, confessing him, observing his conduct, following his teaching, and being shaped by a relationship with him. Discipleship also means being prepared to face the kind of rejection that Jesus faced.

THE SETTING OF MARK

The events in the book of Mark take place almost entirely within Palestine, from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Beersheba in the south. During this time Palestine was ruled by the Roman Empire. The book opens with Jesus' baptism by John during the rule of Pontius Pilate and the tetrarchs Antipas and Philip. It closes with Jesus' death and resurrection about three years later.



- 1) "The _____ immediately drove him out into the wilderness."
- 2) "And he was in the wilderness _____ days, being tempted by Satan."
- 3) "And he was with the _____ animals"
- 4) "and the angels were _____ to Him"