



## Overview for Mark

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**Purpose:** The Book of Mark was written as a straightforward, simple announcement of Jesus as the Suffering Servant of the Lord. Mark's intent was to present the humanity of Jesus, and he did so by emphasizing His emotions (Mark 1:41; 3:5; 6:34; 8:12; 9:36), human limitations (Mark 4:38; 11:12; 13:32), and small details that highlighted the Son of God's human side (Mark 7:33-34; 8:12; 9:36; 10:13-16).

**Author:** Mark (also known as John Mark) was the son of Mary of Jerusalem, the woman whose home Peter went to when he was released from prison (Acts 12:12). Mark was a cousin of Barnabas (Colossians 4:10) and close companion of the Apostle Peter. Some credit Peter as the source of much of the information contained in this Gospel; it was referred to as "Peter's Gospel" by some ancient writers, and as "the memoirs of Peter" by Justin Martyr (around A.D. 150).

**To Whom Written:** The book seems to have been directed to the Greek-speaking residents of the Roman Empire, who had become Gentile believers. It contains very few references to the Old Testament and often explains Jewish words, customs, and traditions to provide clarity for readers who would not be familiar with them.

**Date Written:** The exact date is unknown, although Mark 13:2, which mentions the impending destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, would indicate it was written prior to A.D. 70. It was likely written sometime between A.D. 50-67.

**Setting:** Most likely written in Rome, the book contains incidents that took place in the Galilean region where Jesus ministered.

**Summary:** One approach to organizing the Gospel of Mark is to divide it into six parts that describe the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Mark 1:1-13—Jesus' Introduction and Preparation for Ministry. The Book of Mark opens with a quotation from Isaiah, the Old Testament prophet, and the account of John the Baptist, who prophesied the coming of the Messiah. This chapter also details the baptism and the temptation of Jesus.

Mark 1:14-6:29—Calling of Disciples and Early Ministry in Galilee. This next section describes Jesus' call of Simon Peter and his brother Andrew, along with the other ten disciples. Jesus starts performing miracles, and His Galilean ministry is described.

Mark 6:30-9:50—Leaving Galilee and Ministry Through Miracles. This part depicts Jesus' withdrawal from Galilee into Tyre and Sidon. It details the feeding of five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish, and describes the miracle of Jesus walking on water. This is followed by Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah, and the transfiguration. In the last portion of this section, Jesus foretells His death and Resurrection.

Mark 10:1-52—Christ's Ministry in Perea. Chapter 10 covers the period when Jesus ministered on the other side of the Jordan River. There, He instructed the people on many subjects, restored sight to a blind man, and again foretold to His disciples His death and Resurrection.

Mark 11:1-13:37—Christ's Concluding Ministry. The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem at the start of Passover marks the start of this section, which ends with the Olivet Apocalypse (end times revelation), in which Jesus gave grave warnings to the people.

Mark 14:1-16:20—The Betrayal, Death, and Resurrection of the Lord. The Lord's Supper is recounted, followed by Jesus' betrayal, arrest, trial, and Crucifixion. The last section of Mark details the account of Christ's Resurrection, the giving of the Great Commission, and Christ's Ascension into Heaven.

# Timeline

Many of these dates are approximate, as reference materials differ slightly.

B.C.				A.D.								
Herod the Great begins to rule 37	John is born 7/6	Jesus is born 6/5	Herod the Great dies 4	Return to Nazareth 4/3	Judea becomes a Roman Province 6	Boy Jesus visits Temple 6/7	Tiberius Caesar becomes Emperor 14	Pontius Pilate appointed Governor 26	John begins ministry 26	Jesus begins ministry 26/27	Jesus feeds 5,000 29	Jesus is crucified, rises again, ascends 30

# Outline

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A complete amplified outline of this book is available on our website at [www.apostolicfaith.org](http://www.apostolicfaith.org).

- I. The credentials of the Son of God (1:1-13)
  - A. Title: "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God" (1:1)
  - B. Certified by His forerunner (1:2-8)
  - C. Certified through His baptism (1:9-11)
  - D. Certified through His temptation (1:12-13)
- II. The introduction of the Son of God (1:14-45)
  - A. The message of the Son of God (1:14-15)
  - B. The disciples of the Son of God (1:16-20)
  - C. The authority of the Son of God (1:21-45)
- III. The opposition to the Son of God (2:1—4:34)
  - A. The commencement of opposition to the Son of God (2:1—3:6)
  - B. The consequences of the opposition to the Son of God (3:7—4:34)
- IV. The authentication of the Son of God (4:35—8:26)
  - A. His power over nature (4:35-41)
  - B. His power over the Satanic realm (5:1-20)
  - C. His power over disease (5:21-43)
  - D. His power over men (6:1-6)
  - E. His power to delegate authority (6:7-13)
  - F. His power over pagan rule (6:14-29)
  - G. His power to meet physical needs for Jews (6:30-44)
  - H. His power to provide protection (6:45-52)
  - I. His power over sickness (6:53-56)
  - J. His power over tradition (7:1-23)
  - K. His power over Satanic domination of Gentiles (7:24-30)
  - L. His power over physical impediments (7:31-37)
  - M. His power to meet physical needs for Gentiles (8:1-10)
  - N. His power over the Pharisees (8:11-20)
  - O. His power over blindness (8:21-26)
- V. The instructions of the Son of God (8:27—10:52)
  - A. Instructions concerning His person (8:27-30)
  - B. Instructions concerning His death (8:31-33)
  - C. Instructions for the disciples (8:34-38)
  - D. Instructions concerning His kingdom (9:1-13)
  - E. Instructions concerning His power and human helplessness (9:14-29)
  - F. Instructions concerning His death (9:30-32)
  - G. Instructions concerning humility (9:33-37)
  - H. Instructions concerning unity (9:38-41)
  - I. Instructions concerning offences (9:42-50)
  - J. Instructions concerning divorce (10:1-12)
  - K. Instructions concerning children (10:13-16)
  - L. Instructions concerning wealth (10:17-31)
  - M. Instructions concerning His death (10:32-34)
  - N. Instructions concerning positions in the kingdom (10:35-45)
  - O. Instruction concerning faith (10:46-52)
- VI. The presentation and rejection of the Son of God (11:1—13:37)
  - A. The presentation of the Son of God (11:1-11)
  - B. The symbolic rejection of Israel by the Son of God (11:12-14)
  - C. The cleansing of the temple by the Son of God (11:15-18)
  - D. The teaching of the disciples by the Son of God (11:19-26)
  - E. The conflict with the nation by the Son of God (11:27—12:34)
  - F. The Instruction of the Son of God (12:35—13:37)
- VII. The crucifixion and resurrection of the Son of God (14:1—16:20)
  - A. The plot of the religious leaders (14:1-2)
  - B. The burial preparation by Mary (14:3-9)
  - C. The betrayal by Judas (14:10-11)
  - D. The Passover and supper (14:12-31)
  - E. The prayer in Gethsemane (14:32-42)
  - F. The betrayal and arrest (14:43-52)
  - G. The trials (14:53—15:20)
  - H. The crucifixion of the Son of God (15:21-47)
  - I. The resurrection of the Son of God (16:1-20)