

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO!  
A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF MARK BY BRENT AMATO  
© 2005  
LESSON NO. 2-CHAPTER 1

I. BEFORE WE GET GOING...

- A. Why the study; why the title?
1. For the seeker-Study Jesus because He is the “Gospel” (Mark 1:1, John 20:31)
  2. For the saint-Study Jesus to either fall in love with Him anew (John 21:15-17) or more deeply (Ephesians 3:14, 17-19)
  3. A “profitable pursuit” (II Timothy 3:16-17)
  4. Life is a race to be run and won (I Corinthians 9:24, Phil. 3:14)
- B. “Go”
1. “The Gospel of Mark has well been called a moving picture of the ministry of Jesus...The Gospel of action...Rapidity of action is its main characteristic...It gives us the works, rather than the words of Jesus.” (Earle)...While only 18 of the 70 parables of Jesus are in the Gospel of Mark, over half of the 35 recorded miracles of Jesus are in Mark’s Gospel. (Mark 16:20)
  2. Key word: “Immediately” (used 41 times; ie 1:10, 12, 18, 20, 21, 28, 29, 42, 43)-For example, “Mark seems to have been impressed by the swiftness with which the Lord’s commands were obeyed. He spoke! It was done!” (Phillips) (ie, 1:42)
  3. “I read in a book where a man called Christ went about doing good. It is very disconcerting to me that I am so easily satisfied with just going about.” (Anonymous)
- C. Some background on the Book
1. Its purpose-Proclaim Christ the Son of God sent to save (Mark 1:1, 11; 3:11; 5:7; 9:7; 12:1-11; 13:32; 14:61-62; 15:39) and the Servant sent to serve (Mark 10:45), whose power was manifested in His service through a series of victorious conflicts
  2. Key themes
    - a. Who?
      - a. Who Jesus is (Mark 9:7, 15:39)
      - b. Who we should be (Mark 16:14, 13:33-37)
    - b. What?
      - a. What Jesus did (Mark 1:35, 6:45-51) and What we should do (Mark 10:21, 12:28-31)
      - b. What Jesus taught (Mark 4:2-8, 13-20; 11:22-24) and What we should learn (Mark 4:9, 7:14, 16-18a)
- D. Key (memory?) verses (Psalm 1:2)
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

- E. An outline (Wiersbe)
1. The presentation of the Servant (1:1-13)
  2. The Servant's ministry in Galilee (1:14-9:50)
    - a. Period of popularity (1:14-6:29)
    - b. Period of withdrawal (6:30-9:32)
    - c. Period of completion (9:33-50)
  3. The Servant's journey to Jerusalem (10)
  4. The Servant's ministry in Jerusalem (11-16)
    - a. Public teaching and controversy (11:1-12:44)
    - b. Private teaching and ministry (13:1-14:31)
    - c. Arrest, trial and crucifixion (14:32-15:47)
    - d. Resurrection and ascension (16)
- F. Resources-See Lesson No. 1
- G. What's happening in Chapter 1?
1. Action!-"There is more content in the first chapter of Mark than any other chapter in the Bible with the exception of Genesis 1."-McGee; "Between verses 13 and 14 we must make room for the passing of a whole year."-Phillips (See the Gospel of John)
    - a. "Preparation Preaching" (1:1-8)
    - b. "Baptizing the Beloved" (1:9-11)
    - c. Spiritual warfare in the wilderness (1:12-13)
    - d. The calling of the Disciples (1:16-20)
    - e. "The Popular, Powerful Preacher-Teacher" (1:14-15, 21-22, 27-28, 39, 45)
    - f. Healing and miracles (1:23-26, 29-34, 39-44)
  2. Behind the action (1:35-38)
  3. Focus: "A servant needs references...It is a question...as to his actions-can he do the job? God's Servant is marked out here by His accomplishments." (McGee)
- II. "PREPARATION PREACHING" (1:1-8)
- A. A link to Old Testament prophets (1:2-3, Matthew 5:17)
    1. Malachi 3:1 (450-425 B.C.)
    2. Isaiah 40:3 (740 B.C.)
  - B. Who the ministry is about (1:7, John 3:30; Matthew 3:1-12, Luke 3:1-20, John 1:15, 19-34, 3:22-36)-Is this what is happening in your ministry?
  - C. What was the message?
    1. Repentance for the forgiveness of sins
    2. The third testimony: "He's coming"
- III. "BAPTIZING THE BELOVED" (1:9-11)
- A. The Trinity in action (1:10-11)
  - B. The fourth and fifth/ultimate testimony (1:11; Psalm 2:7, Isaiah 42:1) [A lawyer's point-Deuteronomy 19:15]

- IV. SPIRITUAL WARFARE IN THE WILDERNESS (1:12-13; Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 4:1-13)
  - A. How did He get there?
  - B. What happened during those 40 days [present tense participle-continuous] with Satan?
  - C. Two thoughts about what to do with the wild beasts
  - D. The ever present angels ministering
  - E. Now, from Mark's perspective, Jesus is qualified and ready to GO!
- V. THE CALLING OF THE DISCIPLES (1:16-20; John 1:35-42, Mark 3:13-19)
  - A. What was the calling? What is yours?
  - B. What did they leave behind for the call? What have you left behind?
  - C. When did they respond to the call? How timely has been your response?
  - D. The "following" took quickly (1:36-37)
- VI. "THE POPULAR, POWERFUL PREACHER-TEACHER" (1:14-15, 21-22, 27-28, 39)
  - A. What was the message?
    - 1. The kingdom of God is at hand
    - 2. Repent
    - 3. Believe in the gospel
  - B. What did those who heard have to say about the preacher-teacher?
    - 1. Amazing (10:26; 11:18; Matthew 7:28-29)
    - 2. One having authority (even over evil spirits and disease)
    - 3. Not like the scribes
    - 4. New
  - C. Where was the preaching and teaching?
    - 1. In synagogues (1:21, 39)
    - 2. Galilee (1:14)
- VII. HEALING AND MIRACLES (1:23-28, 29-34, 39-45)
  - A. The different "ER's", including Peter's front door
  - B. The compassion of the Healer (1:41)
    - 1. Even to a leper ("All he could look forward to was death. No wonder leprosy is often viewed as a type and picture of sin." Phillips)
    - 2. Love trumped the law, the Healer ignoring the leper's violations of law as to separation (Numbers 5:1-4) and warning (Leviticus 13:45)
  - C. The power of the Healer
  - D. The sixth and seventh testimonies (1:24, 44-45) [the biblical number for perfection]
  - E. The response to healing
    - 1. What people thought (2:12; 5:20, 42; 6:51; 7:37)
    - 2. What people did (1:31, 45)
  - F. Why the "gag order"? (1:44; 3:12; 5:43; 7:36; 8:26, 30; 9:9)
- VIII. BEHIND THE ACTION (1:35-38)
  - A. "The Power Source" (1:35)
    - 1. Jesus made time for "quiet time" at the start of His day, despite an incredibly hectic previous day

2. His quiet time included solitude (as opposed to Peter's crowded house) (Matthew 14:23, Luke 5:16) and prayer (Matthew 6:9-13, John 17)

3. What do you think happened for Jesus?

B. Purpose and Priorities (1:36-38)

1. "Jesus was not a bit moved by their news. As yet, they still didn't even have the faintest understanding of His method, His message or His mission. As for His miracles, on which they placed so much reliance, the Lord did not even mention them. He placed no particular value on them. A following that was based on miracles would need increasingly more miracles, and such a following would soon fade away when the miracles were withdrawn. He had come to preach." (Phillips)

2. Jesus said "No" to good deeds

3. The priority of "preaching" pre-empted "people-pleasing"

IX. SO WHAT?

A. What did Jesus teach that you needed to learn?

B. What type of person do you need to become?

C. What do you need to do?