

# GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

## Major Themes

03/10/2021

### 1. Jesus, the Son of God

Mark's account reveals Jesus' authority (a) as a teacher (1:21-22); (b) to forgive sins (2:5-12) and (c) over the Sabbath (2:27-28), unclean spirits (3:20-27), nature (4:35-41; 6:45-52), the law (7:1-20), the temple (11:12-19, 27-33; 12:1-12) and the mystery of the kingdom of God (4:10-11).

### 2. Jesus, the Son of Man.

Jesus did not shrink from ritual defilement, physical contamination or moral pollution. His loving touch displayed His compassion and accessibility, as well as God's concern for our bodily health.

### 3. Jesus, the Messiah.

Jesus' suffering, rejection and death were central to God's way of salvation. Mark revealed the disciples' initial inability to recognize Jesus' Messianic identity and role. As well as their later reluctance to accept that the Messiah had to suffer and die.

### 4. Jesus, a model of suffering.

Jesus spoke openly of His suffering and death and warned His disciples that they also would face tribulation. Mark clearly portrayed the rigors (painstaking conditions) of discipleship—both then and now. Jesus expects His disciples to deny themselves, endure suffering and take up their own cross (8:34-38), leaving everything behind to follow Him (1:18; 10:17-22, 28-31 & 49-50).

### 5. Jesus, Savior of all who believe.

Jesus is the Savior of all who receive Him by faith. Mark's Gospel focuses on Jesus' ministry in Gentile regions, explains Jewish terms and customs, records the confession of faith of a Gentile (15:39) and the sending of the first Gentile missionary (5:18-19) and calls the temple "a house of prayer for all nations" (11:17).