

Sanctification (Mark 1:1-13)

I. The Four Voices That Announce the Lord

1. Mark (Mark 1:1)

"The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." (KJV)

Key Declaration: *Jesus Christ, the Son of God*

2. Isaiah (Isaiah 40:3; referenced in Mark 1:2–3)

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight."
(KJV)

Key Declaration: *Prepare ye the way of the Lord*

3. John the Baptist (Mark 1:7)

"And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose." (KJV)

Key Declaration: *Prepare ye the way of the Lord*

4. God the Father (Mark 1:11)

"And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (KJV)

Key Declaration: *Thou art My Beloved Son*

II. The Sanctification Journey

1. Divine Permission to Be Tested (Mark 1:12)

"Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness." (KJV)

2. Tested by Satan, Ministered by Angels (Mark 1:13)

"And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to him." (KJV)

Jesus Begins His Ministry & Calls Disciples (Mark 1:14-20)

I. Jesus Begins His Ministry & Calls the First Four Disciples

Theme: *The Good News begins to spread, and disciples are called to follow.*

1. Jesus Preaches in Galilee (Mark 1:14-15)

¹⁴ “Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God’s Good News.” ¹⁵ “The time promised by God has come at last!” he announced. “The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!” (NLT)

2. Jesus Calls His First Four Disciples (Mark 1:16-20)

¹⁶ “One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon^[b] and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living.” ¹⁷ “Jesus called out to them, ‘Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!’” ¹⁸ “And they left their nets at once and followed him.” ¹⁹ “A little farther up the shore, Jesus saw Zebedee’s sons, James and John, in a boat repairing their nets.” ²⁰ “He called them at once, and they also followed him, leaving their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired men.” (NLT)

- Simon (Peter) and Andrew were casting nets.
- James and John were in the boat with their father Zebedee.

II. Controversy Over Various Matters (Mark 2:6-7)

1. Jesus’ Authority Is Questioned by Religious Leaders.

⁶ “But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, ⁷ “What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!” (NLT)

III. Appointing of the Twelve Apostles (Mark 3:14)

1. Jesus Sends Out Messengers to Spread the Gospel

“Then he appointed twelve of them and called them his apostles. They were to accompany him, and he would send them out to preach,” (NLT)

IV. Teaching in Parables (Mark 4:2)

1. Jesus Uses Stories to Reveal Truth to Those Ready to Hear

- This introduces the Parable of the Sower and marks a shift in how Jesus teaches spiritual truths.

“He taught them by telling many stories in the form of parables, such as this one:” (NLT)

V. Jesus’ Authority Over Evil (Mark 5:1-5)

1. A man possessed by an evil spirit lived among the burial caves.

¹“So they arrived at the other side of the lake, in the region of the Gerasenes.” ²“When Jesus climbed out of the boat, a man possessed by an evil^[b] spirit came out from the tombs to meet him” ³“this man lived in the burial caves and could no longer be restrained, even with a chain.

“4“Whenever he was put into chains and shackles—as he often was—he snapped the chains from his wrists and smashed the shackles. No one was strong enough to subdue him.” 5“Day and night, he wandered among the burial caves and in the hills, howling and cutting himself with sharp stones.”

The Way of Sacrifice & the Cross

Key Verse – Sacrifice Introduced (Mark 8:31)

“And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.” (KJV)

From this point forward in Mark’s Gospel, **the Cross becomes central**. Repeatedly from our Lord’s lips, suffering, rejection, death, and resurrection are announced. Jesus makes it clear: **before there is a crown, there must be a cross**.

I. A Warning Against Corruption (Mark 8:15)

“And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod.” (KJV)

Meaning:

1. Jesus warns His disciples of **subtle, corrupting influences (the “leaven” or yeast)**:
 - **Pharisees** – legalism, hypocrisy, unbelief
 - **Herod** – worldliness, political power, materialism
2. Their materialistic focus on literal bread revealed spiritual dullness.
3. Christ’s concern was spiritual: **false teaching hardens hearts and distorts faith**.

II. Restoration Through Suffering (Mark 9:12)

“And he answered and told them, Elias verily cometh first, and restoreth all things; and how it is written of the Son of man, that he must suffer many things, and be set at nought.” (KJV)

Truth Revealed:

1. Jesus confirms Elijah’s coming (fulfilling Old Testament prophecy in Malachi 4:5-6) through **John the Baptist**.
2. A paradoxical divine plan where restoration comes **through suffering**, not immediate glory.

III. Betrayal, Death, and Resurrection (Mark 9:31)

“For he taught his disciples, and said unto them, The Son of man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and after that he is killed, he shall rise the third day.” (KJV)

Emphasis:

1. Jesus clearly foretells:
 - Betrayal
 - Crucifixion
 - Resurrection
2. The “Son of Man” would suffer and rise again
3. Reveals:
 - **Divine sovereignty** – God’s redemptive plan
 - **Human responsibility** – betrayal (Judas’ betrayal) and rejection
4. The disciples struggle to grasp a suffering Messiah.

IV. The Road to Jerusalem (Mark 10:32-34)

³² *“And they were in the way going up to Jerusalem; and Jesus went before them: and they were amazed; and as they followed, they were afraid. And he took again the twelve, and began to tell them what things should happen unto him,*

³³ *Saying, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles:*

³⁴ *And they shall mock him, and shall scourge him, and shall spit upon him, and shall kill him: and the third day he shall rise again.” (KJV)*

Insight:

1. Jesus walks **ahead**, fully aware of what awaits Him (leading them toward the cross).
2. He reveals to his disciples every detail for a third time of the events leading His death (betrayal, condemnation, mockery, flogging) and resurrection.
3. The disciples are amazed and afraid; Jesus is resolute.

V. The Purpose of His Coming – The Ransom (Mark 10:45)

“For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.” (KJV)

Meaning:

1. Jesus’ Purpose:
 - To serve others, not be served
 - To sacrifice (to give his life as “ransom for many”)
 - To redeem
2. His death:
 - Pays sin’s price
 - Frees humanity from sin

- Establishes a model for servant leadership

VI. Anointed for Burial – Love That Understood the Cross (Mark 14:8)

“She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.” (KJV)

Meaning:

1. A woman anoints Jesus with costly perfume.
2. Jesus defends and honors her devotion. *“She did what she could; she poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial,” (NIV)*
3. Her act:
 - Recognizes His coming death
 - Honors His sacrifice
 - Becomes a Gospel testimony

VII. The New Covenant – The Lord’s Supper (Mark 14:24-25)

²⁴ *“And he said unto them, This is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many.”*

²⁵ *“Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.” (KJV)*

Significance:

1. Jesus establishes the Lord’s Supper (Communion) at the Last Supper.
2. The cup (wine) represents:
 - His blood, shed for many
 - A new covenant
 - Establishes forgiveness and new life
3. He promises to drink it again in God’s kingdom, linking His sacrificial death to future eternal fellowship.

VIII. From Entry to Execution (Chapters 11-15)

Jesus knew there would be **a cross instead of a throne, and He was headed to the cross.**

From Chapters 11 to the cross in Chapter 15, Mark vividly portrays the events in ways that differ from those of Matthew and Luke. **For example**, the Olivet discourse in Matthew spans 97 verses, while in Mark it spans only 37. The Olivet Discourse is Jesus’ extended prophecy, found in Matthew 24-25, Mark 13, and Luke 21, delivered on the Mount of Olives (hence the name), concerning the future destruction of the Jerusalem Temple and the signs leading to His second coming, including tribulation, false messiahs, and cosmic events, challenging followers to be watchful and prepared.

IX. True Righteousness, Dangers of Religious Hypocrisy, & the Power of Genuine Faith (Mark 15)

Mark 15 records:

1. Jesus' trial
2. Mockery as "King of the Jews."
3. Crucifixion
4. Death
5. Burial

Themes:

1. True righteousness vs. religious hypocrisy
2. Man-made tradition vs. God's heart
3. Real defilement comes from within

Contrasts:

1. **Cruelty** – crowd and soldiers
2. **Compassion** – Joseph of Arimathea, a faithful women

Revelation:

1. Jesus is both **Messiah** and **Suffering Servant**.
2. His burial sets the stage for resurrection.

Resurrection & Ascension (Mark 16)

I. The Resurrection Account in Mark

1. The Women at the Tomb (Mark 16:1)

"And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint Him." (KJV)

2. Concern Over the Stone (Mark 16:3)

"And they said among themselves, Who will roll the stone from the door of the tomb for us? (KJV)

3. The Angelic Message (Mark 16:5-6)

⁵"And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed". ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not there. See the place where they laid Him."

4. The Report of the Women (Mark 16:7)

"But go your way, tell his disciples and Pater that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you."

5. The Great Commission (Mark 16:15 & Matthew 28:19-20)

¹⁹"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Ghost: ²⁰"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (KJV)

II. His Ascension

1. He is the Ascended Lord (Mark 16:19)

- *“So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.”*

2. Working In Us (1 Corinthians 3:9)

- *“For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building.”*

The Gospel of Mark presents Jesus as:

- **The Servant who suffers,**
- **The King who sacrifices,**
- **The Savior who redeems.**

The Cross was not an interruption of His mission; **it was the mission.**

Reference:

Stringfellow, Alan B. *Through the Bible in One Year: A 52 Lesson Introduction to the 66 Books of the Bible.* Whitaker House, 2005.