

An open scroll with Hebrew text is shown against a dark background. The scroll is unrolled, revealing two pages of text. To the left of the scroll is a wooden handle, likely for a scroll. The text on the scroll is in Hebrew, and the overall scene is lit from the side, creating a dramatic effect.

The Gospel of Mark

Christ the Servant

Last Session...

- Introducing... John Mark
 - Disciple of Peter
- The time of writing
 - Before 68 A.D. (within 30 years of the events)
- The good news Mark has given the world!
 - Jesus Christ is the promised One!
- Deliberate design
 - Clear evidence of supernatural design
- Mark Chapter 1
 - Verses 1-20

This Session...

- The calling of the disciples
 - Peter, Andrew, James & John
- Teaching at Capernaum
- Deliverance of the demoniac
 - He came to break the power of the devil 1 John 3:8
- Healing of Peter's mother-in-law
 - He came to strengthen the weak Romans 5:6
- Healing of the multitude
 - He came to the whosoever
- Healing of the Leper
 - He came to conquer sin in the flesh Romans 8:3

Chapter 1

- 16 Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.
- 17 And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.
- 18 And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him.

Mark 1:16-18

Fishers of Men?

- Peter and Andrew were called to become fishers of men
- There are two ways to catch fish...
 - With a hook and some bait
 - With a net
 - Peter and Andrew used nets
- Similarly, we are to engulf prospective converts with love

Chapter 1

¹⁹ And when he had gone a little further thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets.

Mark 1:19

Silent Evangelism

- It is certain that James & John would have known Andrew & Peter
- As Jesus approaches they would have seen Andrew & Peter following Jesus
- What impact did that have on them?
- What impact does it have on those who know you to see you following Jesus?
- How many actually see that you are following Jesus?

Chapter 1

20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

Mark 1:20

Chapter 1

21 And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

Mark 1:21-22

- Not “Thus saith the Lord”; but rather, “Verily, verily, *I say unto you...*”
- *There is no other person in history who has the right to speak that way.*

Chapter 1

23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

24 Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

Mark 1:23-24

- This is the 1st miracle Mark records
- Mark now wants to tell us that Jesus has come to destroy the powers of darkness!

Chapter 1

25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

Mark 1:25-26

- Torn = caused him to convulse

Chapter 1

- 27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.
- 28 And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

Mark 1:27-28

Unclean Spirits

- Mark will refer to 'unclean spirits' on 6 occasions
 - Mark 1:23,26 / 3:11 / 3: 30 / 5:2,8 / 6:7 / 7:25
- No attempt is made to explain what they are...
- ...it is just assumed the reader would understand what he was referring to
- What do we know about them?

Unclean Spirits

- They are a real phenomenon
- They can indwell individuals
 - With the power to direct & control
- They exhibit self will, independent thought, malevolent intent, the ability to know certain future events
- They do not have a body & unlike Angels cannot simply appear in human form
- There is no specific record of origin

Chapter 1

- 29 And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.
- 30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her.
- 31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

Mark 1:29-31

Chapter 1

- 32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.
- 33 And all the city was gathered together at the door.
- 34 And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

Mark 1:32-34

Mark's Good News!

- Consider the picture Mark is painting!
- Jesus is the promised One!
- Hundreds witnessed God speaking
- He has authority like no other man
- He has power over demons
- He can heal the sick

Chapter 1

- 35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.
- 36 And Simon and they that were with him followed after him.
- 37 And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee.

Mark 1:35-37

Chapter 1

- 38 And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.
- 39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

Mark 1:38-39

Chapter 1

- 40 And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.
- 41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.

Mark 1:40-41

Chapter 1

- 42 And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.
- 43 And he straitly charged him, and forthwith sent him away;

Mark 1:42-43

Chapter 1

44 And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

45 But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

Mark 1:44-45

Leprosy as a type of Sin

- It is deeper than the skin (Lev 13:3);
- It spreads (Lev 13:5-8);
- It defiles and isolates (Lev 13:44-46);
- It renders things only fit for the fire (Lev 13:47-49).
- Lepers were supposed to keep their distance (Lev 13:45-46).
- God has made it abundantly clear that He is not willing that sinners perish (2 Pet 3:9); but that all men be saved (1 Tim 2:4).

Leprosy as a type of Sin

- “Probably it would start with his beginning to feel a little tired. For no reason he would have a feeling of fatigue. Then his joints would begin to get sore. One day he would notice little white spots all over his skin. Later those white spots would begin to harden into nodules. They would turn from white to pink to brown and then become scaly. Soon nodules would spread all over his body. The appearance of his face would change until he began to resemble a lion. The nodules would ulcerate all over his body, producing a foul odour. They would cover his vocal chords so that when he breathed there would be a wheezing sound. When he talked his voice would be raspy. His eye brows would fall out. His hair would turn white. Inch by inch this man’s body would begin to rot. As he walked he would leave putrid spots where the pus oozed out of his feet. His fingers and toes would begin to fall off.

Leprosy as a type of Sin

- ““Leprosy attacks the nervous system in such a way that a person loses all sensation of pain. A man in the grips of leprosy might accidentally put his hand in the fire and feel no pain. He would burn himself severely. He would step on a thorn in the path and feel nothing as the thorn ran through his foot. A leper was walking death that lasted an average of nine years until its victim finally collapsed. “Not only would a person suffer unbelievable horror physically, but there was also social rejection. When it was determined that a man had leprosy, he would be banished from the village. He was no longer allowed to have communion with other people. He had to leave family, friends, and tear his garments so people would recognize he was a leper.

Leprosy as a type of Sin

- Over his upper lip he had to wear a cloth so he wouldn't spread contamination. Every time he saw people coming, the leper was required to cry, "Unclean." It would warn them that a leper was nearby. They would sometimes pick up stones to throw at him.
- "No disease in the Bible pictures the devastating results of sin in a life as does the disease of leprosy."
 - (Excerpted from Jerry Vine, *Exploring the Gospels: Mark*, Loizeaux Brothers, Inc., Neptune NJ, 1990; p.29)

A wooden scroll with Hebrew text, partially unrolled, set against a dark background. The scroll is made of light-colored wood and has a handle at the bottom. The text is written in black ink on a light-colored parchment or paper. The scroll is unrolled from the left side, showing several lines of text. The background is dark, making the scroll stand out.

The Gospel of Mark

To be continued...



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