



Notes

If you have questions during the week, please drop us an e-mail at jim@calvaryroswell.com or phil@calvaryroswell.com



Thru the Scriptures 2006-08



The Sea of Galilee **Mark 1-8**

March 22nd – 28th, 2007

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Ti 3:16-17)

Mark—

“We only need to read Mark two or three times, and his uppermost purpose captures us. He wants us to see *Jesus at Work*. It is as though he says: ‘Look! What Jesus *did* proves who He *was*. What he *wrought* authenticates what He *taught*. The mighty *works* verify the startling *words*. Watch Him at work, and marvel at this supernatural Wonder-worker! *That* will convince you.’”

—J. Baxter Sidlow, *Explore the Book*.

Helpful Study Links:

Additional Commentary: (Great Resource!)

http://preceptaustin.org/mark_commentaries.htm

Sermon Links:

“Faith and Repentance Inseparable” by Charles Spurgeon

<http://www.biblebb.com/files/spurgeon/FAITHREP.TXT>

“The Best House-Visitation” by Charles Spurgeon

<http://www.biblebb.com/files/spurgeon/1236.htm>

“Profit and Loss” by Charles Spurgeon

<http://www.biblebb.com/files/spurgeon/0092.HTM>

“Studies In Mark” by Ray C. Stedman

<http://server.firefighters.org/stedman/stedmanlibrary/stedman/mark/index.html>

Mark

Author: Mark? Mark's Gospel, like the other Gospels, is technically anonymous in that the author does not identify himself. However, the clear testimony of the early church fathers is that this book was written by John Mark, whose family figured prominently in the early Jerusalem church (Acts 12:12). Mark was a companion of Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey (Acts 12:25; 13:13)

Theme: Jesus! That is basic, isn't it? But true. Yet each of the four gospels portrays the life of Christ from a specific and yet beautiful angle. Like holding up a precious Diamond, and beholding different, and yet complementary perspectives, the gospels shows us a little of the richness of Christ. Mark's gospel focuses on the "servant nature" and character of Jesus. As you read through the Gospel—see how many ways you can see this shown...you may even want to write it all down on a different piece of paper.

Keys:Some questions to consider in the way Mark is written:

There is no account given for the birth of Christ in Mark, why?

None of Jesus' long teachings are recorded in Mark, why?

There is a focus on the swiftness of Jesus' activities. As you read chapter one—notice how often it says "immediately". In fact, the word translated immediately is used more often in Mark than the rest of the NT combined. Why?

How much of the book of Mark is dedicated to the last week of Jesus' life and ministry? Why

Mark, the shortest of the four Gospels, tells us more about the actions than the teachings of Jesus. Most of the events recorded also appear in Matthew and Luke, but Mark narrates them with greater detail and vividness. His direct, fast-moving style carries the reader swiftly to the central event of the gospel—Jesus' death and resurrection.

Straightway they forsook their nets...

taken from
Morning and Evening
by Charles Spurgeon

"Straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him."
- Mark 1:18

When they heard the call of Jesus, Simon and Andrew obeyed at once without demur. If we would always, punctually and with resolute zeal, put in practice what we hear upon the spot, or at the first fit occasion, our attendance at the means of grace, and our reading of good books, could not fail to enrich us spiritually. He will not lose his loaf who has taken care at once to eat it, neither can he be deprived of the benefit of the doctrine who has already acted upon it. Most readers and hearers become moved so far as to purpose to amend; but, alas! the proposal is a blossom which has not been knit, and therefore no fruit comes of it; they wait, they waver, and then they forget, till, like the ponds in nights of frost, when the sun shines by day, they are only thawed in time to be frozen again. That fatal to-morrow is blood-red with the murder of fair resolutions; it is the slaughter-house of the innocents. We are very concerned that our little book of "Evening Readings" should not be fruitless, and therefore we pray that readers may not be readers only, but doers, of the word. The practice of truth is the most profitable reading of it. Should the reader be impressed with any duty while perusing these pages, let him hasten to fulfil it before the holy glow has departed from his soul, and let him leave his nets, and all that he has, sooner than be found rebellious to the Master's call. Do not give place to the devil by delay! Haste while opportunity and quickening are in happy conjunction. Do not be caught in your own nets, but break the meshes of worldliness, and away where glory calls you. Happy is the writer who shall meet with readers resolved to carry out his teachings: his harvest shall be a hundredfold, and his Master shall have great honour. Would to God that such might be our reward upon these brief meditations and hurried hints. Grant it, O Lord, unto thy servant!

They Came Unto Him

taken from

Morning and Evening

by Charles Spurgeon

"And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him."

- Mark 3:13

Here was sovereignty. Impatient spirits may fret and fume, because they are not called to the highest places in the ministry; but reader be it thine to rejoice that Jesus calleth whom he wills. If he shall leave me to be a doorkeeper in his house, I will cheerfully bless him for his grace in permitting me to do anything in his service. The call of Christ's servants comes from above. Jesus stands on the mountain, evermore above the world in holiness, earnestness, love and power. Those whom he calls must go up the mountain to him, they must seek to rise to his level by living in constant communion with him. They may not be able to mount to classic honours, or attain scholastic eminence, but they must like Moses go up into the mount of God and have familiar intercourse with the unseen God, or they will never be fitted to proclaim the gospel of peace. Jesus went apart to hold high fellowship with the Father, and we must enter into the same divine companionship if we would bless our fellowmen. No wonder that the apostles were clothed with power when they came down fresh from the mountain where Jesus was. This morning we must endeavour to ascend the mount of communion, that there we may be ordained to the lifework for which we are set apart. Let us not see the face of man to-day till we have seen Jesus. Time spent with him is laid out at blessed interest. We too shall cast out devils and work wonders if we go down into the world girded with that divine energy which Christ alone can give. It is of no use going to the Lord's battle till we are armed with heavenly weapons. We must see Jesus, this is essential. At the mercy-seat we will linger till he shall manifest himself unto us as he doth not unto the world, and until we can truthfully say, "We were with him in the Holy Mount. "

When he cometh in the glory of his Father

taken from
Morning and Evening
by Charles Spurgeon

"When he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."
- Mark 8:38

If we have been partakers with Jesus in his shame, we shall be sharers with him in the lustre which shall surround him when he appears again in glory. Art thou, beloved one, with Christ Jesus? Does a vital union knit thee to him? Then thou art to-day with him in his shame; thou hast taken up his cross, and gone with him without the camp bearing his reproach; thou shalt doubtless be with him when the cross is exchanged for the crown. But judge thyself this evening; for if thou art not with him in the regeneration, neither shalt thou be with him when he shall come in his glory. If thou start back from the black side of communion, thou shalt not understand its bright, its happy period, when the King shall come, and all his holy angels with him. What! are angels with him? And yet he took not up angels—he took up the seed of Abraham. Are the holy angels with him? Come, my soul, if thou art indeed his own beloved, thou canst not be far from him. If his friends and his neighbours are called together to see his glory, what thinkest thou if thou art married to him? Shalt thou be distant? Though it be a day of judgment, yet thou canst not be far from that heart which, having admitted angels into intimacy, has admitted thee into union. Has he not said to thee, O my soul, "I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness?" Have not his own lips said it, "I am married unto thee, and my delight is in thee?" If the angels, who are but friends and neighbours, shall be with him, it is abundantly certain that his own beloved Hephzibah, in whom is all his delight, shall be near to him, and sit at his right hand. Here is a morning star of hope for thee, of such exceeding brilliance, that it may well light up the darkest and most desolate experience.