

Urgency of the Gospel: Mark

Text: Ch. 1:9-13

Theme: Jesus' Approval as God's Son

Date: April 8, 2018

- Main Theme of Mark: *To Present & Defend Jesus' Universal Call to Discipleship*
- Main Idea of this passage: **The Foretold Messiah Has Arrived, & His Name is Jesus.**

Jesus: Approved by God at His Baptism (9-11).

Basic Facts

- You can find similar accounts in Matthew 3:13-17; Luke 3:21-22; and John 1:32-34.
- "In those days" means in the days John was _____.
- _____ was so obscure a town it's not listed in the Old Testament.
- Who baptized Jesus? John, his relative/cousin. (His mother, Mary, was a "relative" of Elizabeth, though we don't know exactly how, Luke 1:36).
- Where was Jesus baptized? Somewhere along the _____ River.
- "Heavens torn open" represents God's arrival (Isa 64:1).
- "Like a dove." The Spirit is not a dove, but here *like* one.
- "With you I am well pleased." God the Father takes delight in all that Jesus is and all that he has done _____ in his life. This verse also mashes together _____ 2 and _____ 42:1.

Why was Jesus baptized?

- Did He need to repent?
 - Jesus "knew no _____" (2 Cor 5:21).
 - Jesus was "tempted as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).
- Matthew says He did it to "fulfill all righteousness" (Matt 3:15). What could this mean?
 - Jesus was endorsing John's preaching.
 - Jesus was _____ with sinners. John's message was that sinners should repent and be baptized. Jesus' incarnation is all about Him identifying with sinners, and it began with His baptism.
 - As a beginning to His earthly ministry (Luke 3:23).
- God wanted to show His public approval.
 - God's voice, after the long silence of _____ years, is heard once more.

False teachings

- Beginning of _____ consciousness
- Jesus of Nazareth becomes the _____

Importance: Divine approval of Jesus.

Jesus: Approved by God during His Temptation (12-13).

Basic Facts

- The Spirit of God – the Holy Spirit – compelled Jesus into the wilderness.
- This happened immediately after His baptism.
- This ordeal took 40 days. We know from other gospels that Satan likely approached Jesus towards the end of the 40 days (Matt 4:2; Luke 4:2-3). 40 days recalls Moses on the mountain (Ex 24:18); Elijah's journey to Sinai (1 Kings 19:8); Israel itself (Deut 8:2), and perhaps His own post-resurrection appearances (Acts 1:3).
- Mark affirms Satan's very real _____ and _____.
- Mark alone mentions the "wild animals." Intertestamental Jewish thinking considered the desert the haunt of _____.
- Angels did what they were made to do, minister (Hebrews 1:14).
- Could Jesus have sinned?
- Mark does not record some important details we learn elsewhere:
 - What were the tests?
 - Did Jesus pass the test?
 - Again, Mark's brevity indicates He intended the reader to have full confidence in his original statement – Jesus is the Son of God – and therefore the proper conclusion would be that OF COURSE JESUS DEFEATED SATAN!

Importance: Jesus went nose-to-nose with the biggest baddie and did what you'd expect of God's Son.

Takeaway: God put His stamp of approval on Jesus...now we must listen to Him!

- God publicly approved of _____ against some would-be usurpers (Numbers 16:28-35).
- God publicly approved of _____ against the false teachers of Baal (1 Kings 18:36).
- God publicly approved of Jesus, but reserves the name "Beloved Son" for Him.
- God says these same words again on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35), but there He adds these words: "LISTEN TO HIM!"

Will you listen to Jesus?

Jesus has a lot to say about...

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|------------------|--|-----------------------|
| • Grief | • Testimony | • Retaliation |
| • Humility | • Relationship of the Old Testament to the New | • Loving Enemies |
| • Righteousness | • Anger | • Giving to the needy |
| • Mercy | • Lust | • Prayer |
| • Purity | • Divorce | • Fasting |
| • Peacemaking | • Taking Oaths | • Living for eternity |
| • Persecution | | • Being content |
| • True happiness | | |

And that's just the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)!