

The Gospel according to Mark

1

¹The beginning of the good news^a of Jesus Christ ¹the Son of God^{2b}. ²³As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ⁴“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, ⁵“who will prepare your way; ³⁵the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight” ’, ⁴ John the baptizer appeared^d in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate⁶ locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, ⁷“The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with^e water; but he will baptize you with^f the Holy Spirit.’

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw ⁸the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved;⁸ with you I am well pleased.’

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by ⁹Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,^h ¹⁵and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;¹⁰ repent, and believe in the good news.

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow me and I

a Or *gospel*
 1 34, 8.29, 9.41, 12.35, 13.21, 14.61, 15.32.
 2 1 Cor. 9.5.
 b Other ancient authorities lack *the Son of God*
 3 For ver. 2–8 see Mt. 3.1–11; Lk. 3.2–16. Jn. 1.6, 15, 19–28.
 4 Cited from Mal. 3.1; Mt. 11.10; Lk. 1.17, 76, 7.27; Jn 3.28.
 c Gk *before your face*
 5 Cited from Isa. 40.3; Lk. 1.76; Jn. 1.23.
 d Other ancient authorities read *John was baptizing*

6 Mt. 26.28; Lk. 1.77.

7 2 King 1.8; Zach. 13.4.

e Or *in*
 f Or *in*

8 Lev. 11.22.

g Or *my beloved Son*

9 Jn. 1.13, 27, 3.30, 31; Acts 13.25.

h Other ancient authorities read *of the kingdom*
 10 Jn. 1.26; Acts 1.5, 11.16.

will make you ¹¹fish for people.’ ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

²¹They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, ‘What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? ¹²I know who you are, the Holy One of ¹³God.’ ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, ¹⁴‘Be silent, and come out of him!’ ²⁶And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, ‘What is this? A new teaching – with authority! Heⁱ commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.’ ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

²⁹¹⁵As soon as they^j left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and ¹⁶took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they

11 Jn. 1.33.

12 Mt 2.23.

13 Isa 64.1; Ezek 1.1.

14 Gen 1.2 (margin); Jn 1.32, 33; Acts 10.38.

i Or *A new teaching! With authority he*

15 9.7; Ps 2.7; Isa 42.1; 2 Pet 1.17.

j Other ancient authorities read *he*

16 For ver. 12, 13 see Mt 4.1–11; Lk 4.1–13.

found him, they said to him, ‘Everyone is searching for you.’
³⁸He answered, ‘Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.’³⁹ ¹⁷And he went through Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

⁴⁰A leper^k came to him begging him, and kneeling^l he said to him, ‘If you choose, you can make me clean.’⁴¹ Moved with pity,^m Jesusⁿ stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, ‘I do choose. Be made clean!’⁴² Immediately the leprosy^o left him, and he was made clean.⁴³ After sternly warning him he sent him away at once,⁴⁴ saying to him, ¹⁸‘See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.’⁴⁵ But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread^{19|20} the word, so that Jesus^p could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

2

¹When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home.² So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them.³ Then some people came,^a bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them.⁴ And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay.⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven.’⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts,⁷ ‘Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?’⁸ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, ‘Why do you raise such questions in your hearts?⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, “Your sins are forgiven”, or to say, “Stand up and take your mat and walk”?¹⁰ But so

¹⁷ Heb 2.18, 4.15.

k The terms leper and leprosy can refer to several diseases
l Other ancient authorities lack *kneeling*

m Other ancient authorities read *anger*
n Gk *he*

o The terms leper and leprosy can refer to several diseases
¹⁸ See 1 Chr 26.1.

¹⁹ Ps 91.13.
²⁰ Mt 26.53; Lk 22.43.
p Other ancient authorities read *he*

a Gk *they*

¹ Cp. Jn 3.24.

that you may know that ²the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’ – he said to the paralytic – ¹¹‘I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.’¹² And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this!’

¹³Jesus^b went out again beside the lake; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them.¹⁴ As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, ‘Follow me.’ And he got up and followed him.

¹⁵And as he sat at dinner^{c3} in Levi’s^d house, many tax-collectors and sinners were also sitting^e with Jesus and his disciples – for there were many who followed him.¹⁶ When the scribes of^f the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax-collectors, they said to his disciples, ‘Why does he eat^g with tax-collectors and sinners?’¹⁷ When Jesus heard this, he said to them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.’

¹⁸Now ⁴John’s disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people^h came and said to him, ‘Why do John’s disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?’¹⁹ Jesus said to them, ‘The wedding-guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.²⁰ The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and ⁵then they will fast on that day.

²¹‘No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old and a worse tear is made.²² And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.’ⁱ

² Rom 1.1, 15.16.

b Gk *He*

c Gk *reclined*
³ Dan 9.24–27; Gal 4.4; Eph 1.10; Cp. Lk 21.8; Jn 7.8.

d Gk *his*
e Gk *reclining*

f Other ancient authorities read *and*

g Other ancient authorities add *and drink*

⁴ Jer 16.16; Ezek 47.10; Mt 13.47.

h Gk *they*

i Other ancient authorities lack *but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins*

The letter of Paul to the Romans

1

¹Paul, a servant^a of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, ¹set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit^b of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grade and apostleship to bring about the ²obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁸First, ⁴I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world. ⁹For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel^c of his Son, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, ¹⁰asking that by God's will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. ¹¹For ⁵I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you — ¹²or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. ¹³I want you to know, brothers and sisters,^d that ⁶I have often intended to come to you (but thus far ⁷have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as I have among the rest of the Gentiles. ¹⁴I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish ¹⁵— hence my eagerness to proclaim the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed

a Or *gospel*
1 34, 8.29; 9.41, 12.35; 13.21, 14.61, 15.32.

b Other ancient authorities lack *the Son of God*

2 1 Cor 9.5.

3 For ver. 2–8 see Mt 3.1–11; Lk 3.2–16.
Jn 1.6, 15, 19–28.

4 Cited from Mal 3.1; Mt 11.10; Lk 1.17, 76, 7.27; Jn 3.28.

c Other ancient authorities read *John was baptizing*

5 Cited from Isa 40.3; Lk 1.76; Jn 1.23.

d Or *in*
6 Mt 26.28; Lk 1.77.
7 2 King 1.8; Zach 13.4.

⁸through faith for faith; as it is written, 'The one who is righteous will live by faith.'^e

¹⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of those who by their wickedness suppress the truth. ¹⁹For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse; ²¹for though they knew God, they did not honour him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless minds were darkened. ²²⁹Claiming to be wise, they became fools; ²³and they exchanged the glory of ¹⁰the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human being or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles.

²⁴Therefore ¹¹God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the degrading of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵because they exchanged ¹²the truth about God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator who is blessed for ever! Amen.

²⁶For this reason God gave them up to degrading passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, ²⁷and in the same way also the men, giving up natural intercourse with women, were consumed with passion for one another. Men committed shameless acts with men and received in their own persons the due penalty for their error.

²⁸And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind, and to things that should not be done. ²⁹They were filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, covetousness, malice. Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, craftiness, they are gossips, ³⁰slanderers, God-haters,^f insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, rebellious towards parents, ³¹foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³²They know ¹³God's decree, that those who practise such things deserve to die – yet

8 Lev 11.22.

e Or *in*

9 Jn 1.13, 27, 3.30, 31; Acts 13.25.

10 Jn 1.26; Acts 1.5, 11.16.

11 Jn 1.33.

12 Mt 2.23.

f Or *my beloved Son*

13 Isa 64.1; Ezek 1.1.