

The Gospel According to Mark
A translation from the Original Greek
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Chapter 1

¹Here begins the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

*Behold, I am sending My messenger ahead of you, who will prepare Your way.
³A voice crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord!
Make straight paths for him!"*

⁴John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And everyone in the Judean region and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. ⁶John wore camel hair garments with a leather belt around his waist, and his diet was locusts and wild honey.

⁷He was proclaiming, "There is One coming after me who is mightier than I. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the straps of His sandals. ⁸I baptized you with water. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. ¹⁰Immediately as he was coming up from the water, Jesus saw the heavens split open and the Spirit in the form of a dove coming down to him. ¹¹A voice from heaven said, "You are My Beloved Son. In You I was well pleased."

¹²Immediately the Spirit compelled him to go into the wilderness ¹³where he was tested by Satan for forty days. He was among the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

¹⁴After John was imprisoned, Jesus came into Galilee proclaiming God's good news, ¹⁵"The time is fulfilled and the Kingdom of God has drawn near," he said. "Repent and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew in the sea casting nets, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷Jesus said to them, "Come, follow after me and I will make you into fishermen of men." ¹⁸Immediately abandoning their nets, they followed Him.

¹⁹After going a little further, he saw James the son of Zebedee and his brother John in the boat preparing the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them. Leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, they went away after him.

²¹They entered the city of Capernaum, and first thing on the Sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²²The listeners were shocked at his teaching for he was teaching them as one who had authority and not as the scribes.

²³Suddenly a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit shrieked, ²⁴“What do you want with us, Jesus the Nazarene? You have come to destroy us! I know who you are - the Holy One of God!”

²⁵Jesus rebuked him, “Shut up! Come out of him!”

²⁶The unclean spirit, after throwing the man into violent spasms and screaming, came out of him. ²⁷Everyone was so astonished that they disputed among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He even commands the unclean spirits and they obey him!” ²⁸At once the news about him spread everywhere into the whole region around Galilee.

²⁹Departing from the synagogue, they went straight to the house of Simon and Andrew, accompanied by James and John. ³⁰Now Simon’s mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever, and they wasted no time telling Jesus about her. ³¹Drawing near, he took her hand and raised her up. The fever left her, and she began to wait on them.

³²That evening after sunset, people were bringing to him all those who were sick or demon possessed ³³and it seemed as though the whole city had gathered at the door. ³⁴He healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, but he would not allow the demons to speak, because they knew who he was.

³⁵After rising very early in the morning while it was still night, Jesus departed and went to a secluded place and there he was praying. ³⁶Simon and the others searched for him ³⁷and when they found him, they scolded him, “Everyone is looking for you!”

³⁸Jesus replied, “We must go elsewhere to the neighboring towns so I can preach there also. This is what I came for.” ³⁹So he went throughout all of Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

⁴⁰Now a leper came to him and falling on his knees he pleaded, “If you are willing, you can make me clean.”

⁴¹Moved with compassion, Jesus touched him with his hand, saying, “I am willing. Be clean.” ⁴²Immediately the leprosy vanished from him and he was clean. ⁴³Jesus promptly sent him away with a stern warning, ⁴⁴“Don’t tell anyone anything about this. But go, show yourself to the priest. Offer what Moses commanded for your cleansing as a testimony to them.”

⁴⁵But after leaving, he began to proclaim everything that happened and spread the news everywhere. As a result, Jesus could no longer publicly enter a city, but stayed outside in desert places. But they were still coming to him from everywhere.