

# Overview of *Mark*

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# Introduction

Gospel of Mark

- 16 Chapters
  - “According to Mark”
  - $\frac{1}{3}$  of the Synoptic Gospels
  - Early vs Late dating
  - Gentile Audience
  - Controversies
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# Summary of Book

- 1:2-6:6 - Galilean ministry
- 6:7-8:38 - Traveling ministry
- 9:1-13 - Transfiguration
- 9:14-10:52 - To Jerusalem
- 11:1-13:37 - Entering Jerusalem & its judgment
- 14:1-16:20 - Passion Weekend

# John Mark

- John Mark is similar to Saul/Paul in that he has a Jewish and a Roman name.
- Linked with Peter in scripture & tradition
- Traditionally connected author
- In the Bible-
  - Son of a Mary, who hosted Christians (Acts 12:12)
  - Cousin of Barnabas (Colossians 4:10)
  - Original companion of Paul & Barnabas (Acts 12:25, 13:5)
  - Leaves them midway (Acts 13:13)
  - Continues with Barnabas later (Acts 15:37)
  - Seemingly reconciles with Paul (2 Tim 4:11, Philemon v23-24)
  - “Son” of Peter (1 Peter 5:13)
  - Maybe, probably not, the boy in following in Gethsemane (Mark 14:51-52)
- Alexandria, Egypt bishop, D. 68 AD

# Synoptic Gospels

Matthew, Mark & Luke

- What we call Matthew, Mark, Luke
  - **NOT** the *Gnostic* gospels
  - All events and teachings in Mark can be found in Matthew and Luke
  - M & M Timing
  - Luke-Acts Evidences
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# Date Arguments

## Early

- Pre 70 AD
- 61% of modern scholars go Pre 70
- Three Key Reasons
  - Tradition / Church Fathers
  - Luke-Acts Temple Argument
  - Peter & Paul died in the early-mid 60's

## Late

- Post 70 AD
- Many believe 70-80 AD
- Three Key Reasons
  - Prophecy isn't real, temple had to be down
  - Church fathers were liars
  - Mark is just a second century forgery

# For the gentiles in Rome?

- Explains Hebrew world in a unique way
  - De-emphasis on past scripture
  - Latinisms
  - Broad in detail
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# Controversies?

- Which ending is correct?
- I heard there was a missing portion found in the 1950's by a scholar?
- Can I handle snakes (Mk 16:18)?
- Acts of Barnabas?
- There is good early manuscript evidence along with testimony of early church fathers that the long ending is credible.
- Morton Smith of Columbia claimed to have found a missing portion of Mark in 1958. The broad consensus among christian and secular scholars is that Smith created a fake.
- Please don't! (Mt 4:7) (Ac 28:3-6)
- Does not pop up til the mid 400's, obviously fake



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