



# THE GOSPEL OF MARK

## Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God



Part 5

*"The Appearance of the Messiah"*

3-7-21

### Introduction: The Failures of God's People

#### **The Failure of Man in the Garden of Eden—Genesis 3:1-24**

- In an ideal setting and without possessing a sin nature, our first parents listened to the serpent and rebelled against God, disobeying His command and disregarding His warnings to them. Although they were shown grace and mercy by God, they also experienced the temporal consequences of their sin.

Gen. 3:21, 24—<sup>21</sup> And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them...<sup>24</sup> He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

#### **The Failure of Israel to Enter the Promised Land—Numbers 13-14**

- In spite of all the signs that the Lord had performed for Israel in the Exodus, they rebelled against Him in the wilderness by determining to return to Egypt. In spite of this, the Lord showed them grace and mercy even though they also experienced temporal consequences for their sin.

Num. 14:20-23, 33-34—<sup>20</sup> Then the Lord said, "I have pardoned, according to your word...<sup>33</sup> And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness. <sup>34</sup> According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, a year for each day, you shall bear your iniquity forty years..."

**Key Point:** Through the account of Jesus' baptism and temptation, Mark shows that He alone is qualified to be the Redeemer of mankind because He is both identified \_\_\_\_\_ and set apart \_\_\_\_\_ sinful humanity.

### The Baptism of the Lord

Mark 1:9-11—<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

- **The only background information that is given regarding Jesus is that He came from Galilee and was baptized by John.**
  - ⇒ Jesus clearly understood the significance of John's ministry and its relationship to that of His own. His baptism was a significant first step in the beginning of His public ministry.

(1) *Jesus' baptism confirms the \_\_\_\_\_ of John's ministry*

(2) *Jesus' baptism \_\_\_\_\_ him with sinners, although He was not Himself a sinner.*

- **The events that immediately followed His baptism clearly identify Jesus as the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.**

⇒ There are three specific things that Mark conveys to us that reveal Jesus' true identity:

(1) *The Heavens Torn Open*

Isa. 64:1a—*Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down...*

(2) *The Descent of the Spirit*

Isa. 11:2a—*And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him...*

(3) *The Voice from Heaven*

Psa. 2:7—*I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."*

Isa. 42:1—*Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.*

**Key Point:** Jesus' baptism both identified Him \_\_\_\_\_ and distinguished Him \_\_\_\_\_ the rest of mankind, showing that He had come as the promised Redeemer.

"In three short verses, Mark has introduced the major lines of his Christology. Baptized by John...Jesus is human. Anointed by the Spirit, Jesus is divine. Jesus is both the Son of Man and the Son of God. In the line of David, Jesus is royal Messiah. But as the Son of God, Jesus far transcends David's line and will reign with God..." — Eugene LaVerdiere, *The Beginning of the Gospel*

## The Temptation of the Lord

Mark 1:12-13—<sup>12</sup> *The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.* <sup>13</sup> *And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.*

- **Mark's account is focused on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the temptation as it relates to Jesus' true identity rather than the specifics of it which are conveyed by Matthew and Luke.**

"tempted" —πειράζω (*peirazō*)— To put to the test; to ascertain or to demonstrate the quality of.

⇒ With His true identity joyously conveyed at His baptism, it will now confirmed through trial by His \_\_\_\_\_.

"It is important...to acknowledge unreservedly that Christ was tempted and that these temptations were actually real. He felt the appeal of the sinful proposals put to Him and He had to struggle with all His might to repel them...He stood only by the power of the Holy Spirit: not by some effortless, Samson-like omnipotence, but by the power of a relationship with God which was moral and personal and which meant that he was invincible in faith, hope, and love." —Donald MacLeod, *The Person of Christ*

- **The imagery of Mark's temptation account conveys that Jesus is the true and better \_\_\_\_\_ and the ideal \_\_\_\_\_.**

### *Adam's Temptation*

- \* Adam was rightly related to God, living in harmony with creation ("*the wild animals*"—Gen.2:19) in an unfallen world.
- \* Satan came to Adam in this setting, exercising authority over him and tempting him to distort and disobey the Word of the Lord.
- \* As a result, mankind was exiled ("*driven out*") from the Garden into the harsh realities of a fallen world.

### *Jesus' Temptation*

- \* Jesus is "*driven out*" into the wilderness, experiencing all the harsh realities of life in a fallen world.
- \* Jesus goes to the place where Satan is, exercising authority over Him by recalling and obeying the Word of the Lord.
- \* As a result, He experiences harmony with creation ("*the wild animals*"), anticipating its ultimate restoration.

### *Israel in the Wilderness*

- \* Israel's 40 years of wandering (in the "*wilderness*" - Num. 14:33) was the result of their failure to trust God's leading.
- \* Although Israel experienced God's physical provision, they often rebelled against Him and were therefore recipients of the judgment of heaven (Num. 21:5-6; 25:1-9).

### *Jesus in the Wilderness*

- \* Jesus' 40 days in the "*wilderness*" were the result of His obedience to the leading of the Spirit.
- \* Although Jesus did not experience God's physical provision, He did not rebel against the Lord and was therefore the recipient of the favor of heaven ("*angels*").

**Key Point:** Jesus' victory over Satan in the temptation demonstrated His true \_\_\_\_\_ as the Messiah, the Son of God.

"The enemy departed from Him—yet only for a season. But this first contest and victory of Jesus decided all others to the last."  
—Alfred Edersheim, *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*

## Concluding Thoughts

Heb. 2:14-18—<sup>14</sup> *Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,* <sup>15</sup> *and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.*

<sup>16</sup> *For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham.* <sup>17</sup> *Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.* <sup>18</sup> *For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.*

- **The eternal Son of God took on our humanity in order to deliver us from our enemies:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_:

2. \_\_\_\_\_:

3. \_\_\_\_\_: *Its penalty* →

*It's power* →

"...Christ as enfolding us in the mantle of His royalty, so has He Who shared our nature and our temptations gone up with us, want-pressed, sin-laden, and temptation-stricken as we are as we are, to the Mount of Temptation...And over us is spread, as the sheltering folds of His mantle, this the outcome of His royal contest and glorious victory..." —Edersheim, *Jesus the Messiah*