



THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God



Part 17

“Yahweh (the LORD) & the Messiah”

6-20-21

Introduction

The purpose of Mark’s gospel is that we would see that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. That means that he intentionally highlights certain events in Jesus’ life and ministry that serve as illustrations. Often, he draws attention to these events because of their connection to key events or individuals from the OT in order to identify Jesus with Israel’s God.

“[Mark] suggests that Jesus is, in some way that defies comprehension, the embodiment of God’s presence.” —Richard Hayes, *Reading Backwards*

Key Point: Jesus, the Messiah, is the also the Son of God and the LORD Almighty who has come personally to His people Israel in order that they might receive His _____ and see His _____.

The Feeding of the Five Thousand — Mark 6:30-44

- **Having returned to Jesus, the disciples were called by Him to retreat from the crowds and go into a desolate place in order that they might rest. (6:30-34)**

⇒ The size of the crowd was perhaps due to the large number of pilgrims who were preparing to travel to Jerusalem for _____ (John 6:4).

“a desolate place” —ἐρημος (*erēmos*)

“like sheep without a shepherd”

- **After an extended period of time, the disciples began to consider the practical realities of the situation. (6:35-37)**

⇒ Although Jesus had fed the people spiritually, the disciples recognize that they also need to be fed _____. They observe that to purchase that much food would take over a half a year’s wages!

- **Jesus then miraculously fed the entire crowd from meager rations that they gathered from among the people. (6:38-44)**

⇒ Jesus’ actions recall the _____ of Psalm 23 and also foreshadow the _____ of the Last Supper. The description of this “feast” is also certainly intended to contrast with that of Herod which was described in the prior account.

Echoes of the Old Testament

During the Exodus, the LORD Himself miraculously fed Israel in the wilderness (erēmos) with both _____ and _____.

Exod. 16:6-7a, 13-15—⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord...

¹³ In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴ And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

The OT prophets recognized the failures of Israel’s _____ and _____ leaders (Ezek. 34:1-6) and anticipated a time when the LORD Himself would shepherd His people. Specifically, the coming David King (Messiah) would be the one who would feed His sheep.

Ezek. 34:14-15, 23-24—¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God.

²³ And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the Lord; I have spoken.

Key Point: The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand demonstrated to the disciples and to the crowds that Jesus was the LORD _____ who had come to shepherd His people!

Jesus Walking on the Water—Mark 6:45-51

- **Jesus then instructed the disciples to leave the region and sail towards Bethsaida. (6:45-47)**
⇒ With the execution of John and the subsequent suspicion of Herod Antipas towards Jesus, it seems that He intended for them to move their ministry into the territory of Herod Philip.
- **After a time in prayer, Jesus saw that the disciples were in trouble on the sea and so He went out to them. (6:48-52)**
“to pass by”—παρέρχομαι (*parerchomai*)
⇒ The reaction of the disciples to the Lord in this account recalls their _____ to His calming of the storm (4:40-42). Mark also interprets their reaction by stating that they had not understood the prior miracle of the feeding of the crowds and it was therefore necessary for Jesus to assure them by both His identity (“It is I”—*egō eimi*) and His presence.

Echoes of the Old Testament

In the book of Job, the God’s _____ and transcendence are described in reference to Him treading upon the sea and “passing by” (*parerchomai*) Job.

Job 9:4-11—⁴He is wise in heart and mighty in strength—who has hardened himself against him, and succeeded?—⁵he who removes mountains, and they know it not, when he overturns them in his anger, ⁶who shakes the earth out of its place, and its pillars tremble; ⁷who commands the sun, and it does not rise; who seals up the stars; ⁸who alone stretched out the heavens and trampled the waves of the sea; ⁹who made the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the chambers of the south; ¹⁰who does great things beyond searching out, and marvelous things beyond number. ¹¹Behold, he passes by me, and I see him not; he moves on, but I do not perceive him.

In Exodus, God _____ Moses by identifying Himself to him (“I am”—*egō eimi*) and also in “passing by” him in order that His power and glory might be revealed.

Exod. 3:13-14—¹³Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

Exod. 33:19-23—¹⁹And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.” ²¹And the Lord said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, ²²and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

Key Point: The miracle of Jesus walking on the water demonstrated to the disciples that Jesus had come to personally reveal the _____ and _____ of the LORD Himself.

Seeing Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God

1. Mark wants his audience to understand that Jesus is the Messiah who has come to shepherd God’s people.
2. Mark wants his audience to recognize that Israel’s God has come to His people in the person of His Son, Jesus.

Concluding Thought

- We would do well to _____ upon the fullness of what it means that God has come to us in the person of Jesus Christ in order to both reveal Himself and make provision for us.

Col. 1:15-20—¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.