

A Journey Through Mark

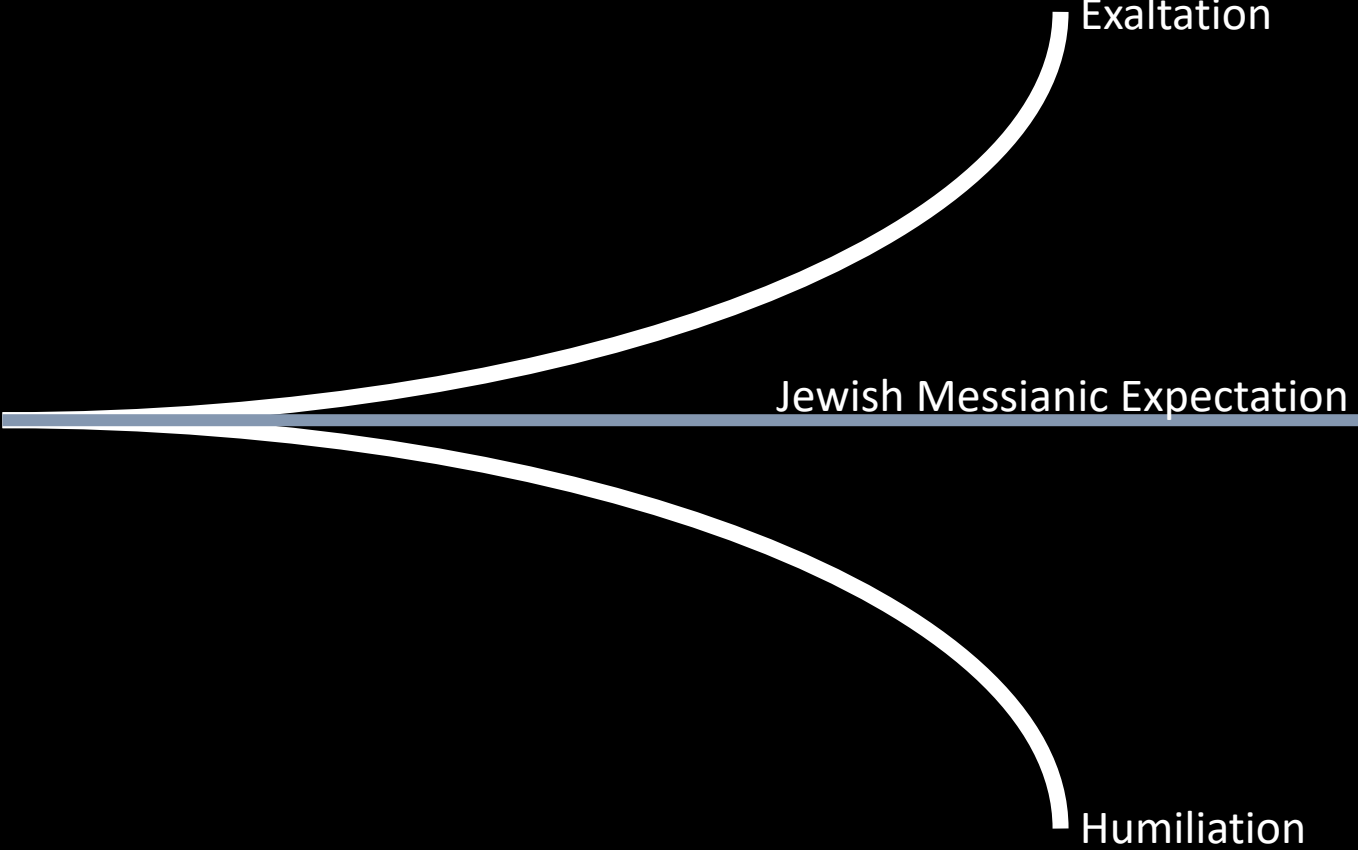
Chapters 15-16 and Conclusion

Conclusion: Who is Jesus?

The Messianic Secret Now Revealed

- A Gospel for the Skeptic – multiple opinions are presented
- The moment of clearest revelation is the death and resurrection of Jesus
- The Centurion's confession is the first time someone is not corrected

Themes: Messianic Secret



Jesus exceeds expectations in both exaltation and humility

Features of Note

- Names of regular people
 - Simon of Cyrene and his sons Rufus and Alexander
 - Joseph of Arimathea
 - Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, Salome
- Women as the first witnesses of the resurrection
- The Longer Ending of Mark
- Pilate's decisions
- Symbolism and fulfillment in the crucifixion
- Psalm 22 as the outline for Chapter 15

The Longer Ending of Mark

Some ancient manuscripts of Mark's Gospel contain these verses and others do not, which presents a puzzle for scholars who specialize in the history of such manuscripts. This longer ending is missing from various old and reliable Greek manuscripts (esp. Sinaiticus and Vaticanus), as well as numerous early Latin, Syriac, Armenian, and Georgian manuscripts. Early church fathers (e.g., Origen and Clement of Alexandria) did not appear to know of these verses. Eusebius and Jerome state that this section is missing in most manuscripts available at their time. And some manuscripts that contain vv. 9–20 indicate that older manuscripts lack the section... As for the verses themselves, they contain various Greek words and expressions uncommon to Mark, and there are stylistic differences as well. Many think this shows vv. 9–20 to be a later addition. In summary, vv. 9–20 should be read with caution. As in many translations, the editors of the ESV have placed the section within brackets, showing their doubts as to whether it was originally part of what Mark wrote, but also recognizing its long history of acceptance by many in the church. The content of vv. 9–20 is best explained by reference to other passages in the Gospels and the rest of the NT. (Most of its content is found elsewhere, and no point of doctrine is affected by the absence or presence of vv. 9–20.) –ESV Study Bible

Symbolism and Fulfilment

- Jesus taken outside the city
- Darkness over the whole land
- Curtain of the temple torn from top to bottom

Darkness

Amos 8:9-10

9 “And on that day,” declares the Lord GOD,
“I will make the sun go down at noon
and darken the earth in broad daylight.

10 I will turn your feasts into mourning
and all your songs into lamentation;

I will bring sackcloth on every waist
and baldness on every head;

I will make it like the mourning for an only son
and the end of it like a bitter day.

Darkness

Often a sign of an eschatological event taking place, darkness represents lament (Amos 8:9–10) and divine judgment (Ex. 10:21–23). Here it is both literal (the sun's light failed) and figurative (cf. Acts 2:20), probably signifying that Jesus was bearing God's wrath for his people (cf. Joel 2:2; Amos 5:18, 20; Zeph. 1:15), and also expressive of God's displeasure and judgment upon humanity for crucifying his Son. The darkness was not caused by a solar eclipse.

-ESV Study Bible

Symbolism and Fulfilment

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- Darkness over the whole land
- Curtain of the temple torn from top to bottom

The Curtain Torn

The curtain between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place was an elaborately woven fabric of 72 twisted plaits of 24 threads each. It was 60 feet (18 m) high and 30 feet (9.1 m) wide. No one was allowed to enter the Most Holy Place behind the curtain except the high priest, and he only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (Heb. 9:2–7). Torn in two signifies the removal of the separation between God and the people. An extended commentary on this event, and the heavenly reality that it symbolized, is found in Heb. 9:11–10:22; see especially Heb. 9:12, 24; 10:19–20.

-ESV Study Bible

The Curtain Torn

Hebrews 10:19

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Psalm 22 and Mark 15

Mark 15:16-20

16 And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. 17 And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. 18 And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 19 And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. 20 And when ***they had mocked him***, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

Psalms 22:6-7a

6 But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

7 ***All who see me mock me;***

Mark 15:21-25

21 And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. 22 And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). 23 And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it.

24 And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. 25 And it was the third hour when they crucified him.

Psalms 22:14-18

14 I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;

15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

16 For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—

17 I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;

18 **they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.**

Mark 15:26-29a

26 And the inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.”

27 And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left.

29 And those who passed by derided him, ***wagging their heads***

Psalms 22:7

7 All who see me mock me;
they make mouths at me; ***they wag their heads;***

Mark 15:29b-32

and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, 30 save yourself, and come down from the cross!” 31 So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. 32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

Psalms 22:8

8 “He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”

Mark 15:33

33 And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

Psalm 22:19-21a

19 But you, O LORD, do not be far off!

O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dog!

21 Save me from the mouth of the lion!

Mark 15:34

34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means ***“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”***

Psalm 22:1-2

1 ***My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.

Mark 15:35-39

35 And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah."
36 And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." 37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. 38 And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. 39 And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

Psalms 22:27-28

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.

28 For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.