

The Christmas Message in the Four Gospels:

The Coming of Christ in Mark

Pastor Adam Hall ☞ Dryden First Baptist Church ☞ Dec 11, 2022

Mark 10:42-45 English Standard Version

⁴² And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³ But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 1:1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Mark 1:15 "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Introduction and Background

- have you ever met someone who is just a “bah humbug”?
- they do not like anything about _____
- they do not like Christmas music, they do not like Christmas cookies, they do not like Christmas dinner and they do not like giving or getting presents
- this person is almost starting to sound like a Christmas movie who is going to be visited by the ghost of Christmas past

- some might see the gospel of Mark as the “bah humbug” of the gospels because he not mention the _____ of Jesus Christ

- the other gospels mention the Christmas story
- in the gospel of Matthew, Matthew writes in detail about the birth of Jesus
- in Matthew 1:18-25, the angel of the Lord visits Joseph, because Joseph is considering all the things that have happened to _____ (she was with child)
- although Joseph, I am sure, did not understand everything that was going on at that time, he obeys the Lord and takes Mary to be his wife and names the baby Jesus
- Jesus is _____ Jesus because He will save His people from their sins
- in Matthew 2:1-12, the wise men come to worship Jesus and are filled with great joy

- in the gospel of Luke, the _____ Gabriel visits Mary and tells her what is going to happen in Luke 1:26-32

- Jesus is described as:

Luke 1:32 He will be _____ and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,

- in Luke 2:1-7, Jesus is _____ in Bethlehem

- in Luke 2:8-21, the _____ are visited by the Angels about the Lord Jesus

- they are told this about Jesus:

Luke 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

- the Shepherds then go to see Jesus, they praise and _____ Him

- the gospel of John, does not explain the _____ of Jesus in the same way that Matthew and Luke do

- John just simply proclaims the _____ of Jesus Christ in John 1:14

John 1:14 And the _____ became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- the “Word”, who is _____, and who was with God in the beginning, assumes human nature (John 1:1-2)

- _____ does not tell the story of the birth of Jesus like Matthew, Luke and John

- but Mark does speak indirectly about the coming of Christ as a _____

- Mark focuses more on the “_____” of Jesus assuming human nature and the “why” of His coming to the earth came to the earth

- Mark does not record the “_____” of Jesus coming to the earth

- the gospel of Mark is thought to have been _____ by Mark who was a side kick of Peter the apostle

- although we cannot know for sure, I am convinced that Mark was an eye _____ because he records these detailed verses -- after Jesus is handed over to be crucified, all the _____ flee and abandon Jesus and then we have these two verses

Mark 14:51-52 And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, ⁵² but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

- it is thought that Mark writes these _____ about himself

- the gospel of Mark was written to _____ persecuted Christians and to teach them how to be a _____ of Jesus Christ

- the gospel of Mark is the _____ of all the 4 gospels

- if you were to read the gospel of Mark in one sitting it should take you just over an hour

- the gospel starts out very _____ and concise in Mark 1:1

Mark 1:1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

- Mark 1:1 really sets the _____ for the rest of the gospel

- Jesus brings us the _____ or good news

- Jesus is the _____ the Messiah
- Jesus is the _____ of God

Brief Outline:

- 1) Jesus is the Gospel**
- 2) Jesus is the Christ/Messiah**
- 3) Jesus is the Son of God**
- 4) The Cost of Following Jesus**

1) Jesus is the Gospel

a) the word "_____"

- in Mark 1:1 we have the first use of the word "gospel"!
 - _____ Jesus and His work upon the cross there is no gospel
 - the word "gospel" can also be translated "_____ news"
 - during the time of Christ, the word "gospel" was often used by political leaders to announce that their army had won the _____
 - the Greek and the Romans leaders would proclaim the "gospel" which was that they had _____ their enemies and _____ their kingdom
 - often these declarations of "gospel" by these political leaders were _____ declarations
 - Jesus did not offer a prideful declaration instead He brings His _____ of His death for the salvation of all
 - Jesus makes the announcement of His good news _____
 - after the introduction to John the Baptist, the baptism of Jesus and the temptation of Jesus, the first words of Jesus Christ were about the _____ in Mark 1:14-15
- Mark 1:14-15** Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God,¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; _____ and believe in the gospel."

b) gospel is outlined in Mark 1:15

- the gospel of Jesus is _____ in **Mark 1:15**

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

i) the _____ is fulfilled

- the _____ for Jesus Christ had come
- all the way back to Genesis 3:15, the coming of Christ was _____

Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

- in Deuteronomy, _____ predicated that a prophet like him would come in the future
- Deuteronomy 18:15** "The LORD your God will raise up for you a _____ like me from among you, from your brothers-- it is to him you shall listen--
- these prophecies were fulfilled in Jesus

- in fact, the _____ Old Testament is pointing us to Jesus Christ and His work
- at just the _____ time, God became flesh and has dwelt among us in the person of Jesus Christ, the Lord has fulfilled His word

ii) the _____ of God is at hand

- the kingdom of God refers to the _____ of God
- this means that Jesus Christ has _____ and His reign has begun
- because of the _____ of Jesus Christ and His grace given, God's kingdom is _____ on the earth

iii) repent

- Jesus calls people to _____
- this means to _____ your mind about sin and recognize your rebellion
- all people have gone in the direction of sin and _____ against God
- Jesus calls us to turn from our _____
- Jesus calls us to _____ our sin and rebellion against God
- Jesus calls us to have _____, sadness and even hatred of our sin

iv) _____ the gospel

- we are called to _____ in the gospel
- we are called to _____ upon Jesus Christ and His grace
- we are called to _____ alone in what Jesus Christ has done for us on the cross

- God has been _____ to His promise to send His Messiah and Jesus Christ has been faithful to the Father and accomplished salvation by means of the cross
- we are called to be _____ to God; to turn from sin and _____ in Christ and His work accomplished for us!

2) Jesus is the Christ/Messiah

a) Jesus is called "the _____"

- next in Mark 1:1, Jesus is called "the Christ", or the Hebrew word "Messiah", which means "Anointed One"
- in the gospel of Mark the "_____ of Man" and the "Messiah" are used interchangeably

- if you remember the confession of Peter in the gospel of Mark it is different than the confession that of Peter in Matthew and Luke

Mark 8:29 And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the _____."

b) Jesus is the _____ Messiah

- Mark records the confession of Peter this way to emphasize that Jesus is the suffering Messiah
- Jesus is the Christ and that means that Jesus is the one who was _____ by God to suffer in place of sinners

- the suffering of the _____ is clearly described in Isaiah 53

Isaiah 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was _____ for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:10 Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an _____ for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

- in summary, Jesus fulfills Isaiah 53 as the Messiah because of the _____. He accomplished on the cross

- Jesus goes to the cross to _____ the punishment and shame of sinful people

- Jesus was crushed and Jesus _____ the chastisement of sin or the punishment of sin

- Jesus was an offering for _____

- we see Jesus as the suffering Messiah, as He agonizes over the thought of going to the _____ in the gospel of Mark

- Jesus struggles with bearing the _____!

- the cup in the Old Testament often refers not to a cup of coffee or a cup of sugar but it refers to the _____ of God

- if the Lord is going to give you a cup, it likely means that you are going to bear His _____

- hear what Jesus says about this cup!

Mark 14:36 And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. _____ this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you _____."

- Jesus bore that cup and _____ as a substitute in our place

- we _____ to bear that punishment for our own sin, but Jesus bore it in our place

- this is why we have Christmas, if Jesus was not born, had not lived a _____ life he could not have borne the _____ of God so that we could have the joy of the Lord and peace with God

- in 2012, the great hymn "In Christ Alone" was involved in a controversy with a church denomination hymnal committee in the US.

- the hymnal committee requested permission from Gettys to use an alternate lyric for the phrase, "Till on that cross as Jesus died/the wrath of God was satisfied", changing " _____ of God was satisfied" to "the love of God was _____."

- the Gettys rejected this lyric change, and in the end, the hymnal committee barred the hymn from their hymnal.

- this is a very bad sign for a hymnal committee to ban songs that _____ the truth of what Jesus accomplished on the cross as the Messiah
- this incident occurred because churches have _____ the core of what it means for Jesus to be the _____
- let us not be ashamed of Jesus and His _____ done for us!
- Jesus brings _____ to us because He brings reconciliation between us and _____ by means of His work upon the cross

3) Jesus is the Son of God

a) son of **GOD**

- also in Mark 1:1, Mark says that Jesus is the Son of God
- to be the Son of God _____ that God is your Father and if God is your Father that means that you are equal with God
- if one is _____ with God then that person is God – Jesus is _____

b) called the Son of God by:

i) centurion

- in the gospel of Mark no human _____ Jesus the Son of God till the end of the gospel when we have the centurion _____ that Jesus was truly the Son of God (Mark 15:39)

ii) by God

- Jesus is called the Son of God by God _____ at the Baptism and the Transfiguration when people hear the _____ of the Father

Mark 1:11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Mark 9:7 And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him."

iii) demons

- also we have _____ declaring that Jesus is the Son of God in Mark 3:11, 5:7

c) **SON** of God

- Jesus being the Son of God teaches us about the incarnation
- God assumes human nature and dwells in the flesh

4) The Cost of Following Jesus

a) Mark tells of the _____

- Mark is very clear about the cost of _____ Jesus Christ
- in the gospel of Mark you never get the impression that Christianity is about saying a prayer and then you go and do your _____ thing without further reference to Jesus Christ

- Here are a few examples of followers of Jesus who _____ the cost to follow Jesus

- at the start of the gospel of Mark the disciples are called by Jesus and do you remember what they do?

Mark 1:16-20 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and _____ the brother of _____ casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ And going on a little farther, he saw _____ the son of Zebedee and _____ his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

- Simon, Andrew, James and John had a family business of fishing but they _____ their work commitments immediately to follow Jesus
- they did _____ hesitate and they did not hum and haw
- they followed Jesus and they spent _____ years with Jesus learning from Him

- _____ (aka Matthew) was called by Jesus in his tax booth and immediately followed Jesus

Mark 2:14 And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he _____ and followed him.

b) Jesus tells us of the cost

- Jesus is also clear that there will be a _____ to following Him
- after Jesus announces that He will go to Jerusalem and suffer on the _____ He announces this:

Mark 8:34-35 And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him _____ himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but _____ loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.

- Jesus _____ people to follow Him
- Jesus calls people to _____ themselves and their sinful desires
- Jesus calls people to _____ up their cross – which refers to suffering because of Christ
- this is not exactly a warm and fuzzy message from Jesus
- _____ everything and follow Me and you will find eternal life
- but if you seek to preserve your life you will _____ it
- Jesus _____ people to follow Him, and this means that you _____ your life around Jesus Christ and His Word

Application

1) Jesus Came to Die!

a) why Jesus takes up human flesh

- although Mark does not tell us the birth story of Jesus, Mark does tell us why Jesus had to _____ and take up human flesh
- Jesus became flesh so that He could _____ humanity from our biggest problem
- our biggest problem is not rising inflation and expensive housing
- our greatest _____ is to be saved from our _____
- if you were to watch 24 hour news for days and days you would see that our problem, as humans is _____

- you would _____ murder, theft, anger, rage, sexual immorality, idolatry, and so on and so on

- it is an endless news _____ of sin

b) two verses about Jesus' saving mission

- there are two main verses that speak about the saving _____ of Jesus Christ in the gospel of Mark!

i) **Mark 2:17** And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are _____ have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but _____."

- _____ came to call sinners

- there are many people who will _____ that they are good people

- if you are here _____ that you are a good person then you will see no need of Jesus to call you and _____ you

- all of us are sinners and thus we _____ Jesus to save us

ii) **Mark 10:45** For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to _____, and to give his life as a _____ for many."

- Jesus came to serve and die as a _____ for many

- humans are in _____ to sin

- Paul describes the sin _____ as being in a cage in the book of Galatians (Galatians 3:22-23)

- humans are held _____ by sin, lost in sin and dead in sin

- this is why Jesus came

- Jesus came to _____ us from our massive sin problem

- Jesus sets us free through His service to humanity and this is by His _____ upon the cross

- today if you are _____ of Jesus, see that your sin has created a very serious problem for yourself

- see that your _____ has alienated you from God

- consider what Jesus has done for you and _____ Jesus Christ by trusting in Him

- if you have been _____ by Christ, praise the name of the Lord!

- someone asked me this week if our church believes in healing and _____

- we sure do because we embrace the miracle of God _____ flesh, going to the cross and giving life to _____ sinners!

- Jesus came to _____ and die as a ransom for many and that is the best miracle we can experience!

2) Will You Follow the Suffering Saviour?

a) what it means to follow

- there seems to be great _____ concerning what a Christian is all about

- many people _____ themselves Christians but by their _____ they show that they want nothing to do with Jesus Christ
- only the Lord is their _____ and only the Lord knows where these professing Christians are _____ at
- but God has given us His Word which _____ what a Christian is
- in the gospel of Mark, a Christian is someone who follows Jesus Christ and acts accordingly to His _____

- Jesus calls us to _____ to ourselves and that means that our wills and our _____ come under His submission
- also, when we follow Jesus we must _____ to Jesus our time
- how we spend our _____ must be in submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ
- how we _____ our day must be in submission to Jesus Christ
- if you get up in the morning and all you are concerned about is what people have posted on twitter, facebook, Instagram and youtube and neglect to see what the Lord wants to say to you in His Word then you have some spiritual _____ problems
- if you are looking for _____ to skip church and your excuse is so bad that you pray that the preacher does not call you to see where you were, you have some spiritual _____ problems

- Jesus even demands that we consider how we spend our _____ in accordance to His Lordship
- Jesus spoke about this with the _____ young man in the gospel of Mark

Mark 10:17-22 And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰ And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." ²¹ And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have _____ in heaven; and come, follow me." ²² Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. ²³ And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"

- our finances need to be _____ the Lordship of Christ
- if you have money for Disney Plus, Netflix, Amazon Prime and are giving the Lord the left overs then you have a spiritual _____ problem
- do you _____ your spending and generosity under the Lordship of Christ
- what we _____ on TV and online needs to be under Lordship of Christ as well
- I am amazed at what Christians will openly _____ watching so that they can be culturally cool
- but we know that Jesus would _____ watch much of what is put on the TV and internet

b) only Jesus gives freedom

- salvation is _____ possible with the Lord like Jesus said!
- if Jesus has ransomed you from the _____ of sin, then you are free
- you are _____ to live for the glory of Christ
- so will you live as people who are free and not in _____ to sin!

c) follow and worship

- And in following our Suffering Servant Jesus, let us _____ like this!

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart, and soul, and voice;

Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace!

Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one, and calls you all,

To gain His everlasting hall: Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Coming UP...

Dec 18 - Pastor Adam Hall –

The Christmas Message in the Four Gospels: The Coming of Christ in Luke

-- Luke 2:1-7



**Christmas Eve
Service**

**Saturday
Dec 24th
7:00 pm**

**Special offering
collected for the
Dryden Food
Bank**

The Christmas Message in the Four Gospels:

The Coming of Christ in Mark

Introduction and Background

1) Jesus is the Gospel

- a) the word “gospel”
- b) gospel is outlined in Mark 1:15
 - i) the time is fulfilled
 - ii) the kingdom of God is at hand
 - iii) repent
 - iv) believe the gospel

2) Jesus is the Christ/Messiah

- a) Jesus is called “the Christ”
- b) Jesus is the suffering Messiah

3) Jesus is the Son of God

- a) son of **GOD**
- b) called the Son of God
- c) **SON** of God

4) The Cost of Following Jesus

- a) Mark tells of the cost
- b) Jesus tells us of the cost

Application

1) Jesus Came to Die!

- a) why Jesus takes up human flesh
- b) two verses about Jesus’ saving mission
 - i) **Mark 2:17** And when Jesus heard it, he said
 - ii) **Mark 10:45** For even the Son of Man came

2) Will You Follow the Suffering Saviour?

- a) what it means to follow
- b) only Jesus gives freedom
- c) follow and worship