

## MARK CHAPTER 1

1 THE BEGINNING OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN [A]THE PROPHETS: "BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER BEFORE YOUR FACE, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY BEFORE YOU." 3 "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS: 'PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD; MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.'" 4 JOHN CAME BAPTIZING IN THE WILDERNESS AND PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE [B]FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS. 5 THEN ALL THE LAND OF JUDEA, AND THOSE FROM JERUSALEM, WENT OUT TO HIM AND WERE ALL BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN RIVER, CONFESSING THEIR SINS. 6 NOW JOHN WAS CLOTHED WITH CAMEL'S HAIR AND WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST, AND HE ATE LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 7 AND HE PREACHED, SAYING, "THERE COMES ONE AFTER ME WHO IS MIGHTIER THAN I, WHOSE SANDAL STRAP I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND LOOSE. 8 I INDEED BAPTIZED YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."

### THE UNEXPECTED TIMES

- WHEN YOU STUDY THE BOOK OF MARK WHAT WE SEE THAT THIS IS A FAST-PACED BOOK FOR FAST PEOPLE THE ROMANS.
- WE CAN READ THAT RIGHT FROM THE 1ST VERSE THAT MARK HAD A POINT AND AN EMPHASIS "THE SON OF GOD"
- HE IS WRITING TO PEOPLE WHO ARE WORSHIPING ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE ETERNAL GOD. HE IS SPEAKING TO A GROUP OF PEOPLE AND LETTING THEM KNOW I AM NOT WRITING TO YOU ABOUT ALL YOUR LITTLE GODS YOU CHOOSE TO WORSHIP ALL YOUR FAULTY IDOLS I AM NOT WRITING TO YOU ABOUT THIS RANDOM OTHER HUMAN WHAT I AM SHARING WITH YOU IS THE SON OF GOD!
- I AM SHARING WITH YOU THE ETERNAL ONE THE PROMISED KING THE ONE THAT THE BOOK OF ISAIAH DEVOTED IT SECOND HALF TO I AM TALKING ABOUT THE MESSIAH THE ETERNAL HOPE HIS NAME IS JESUS!
- THERE IS A PHRASE THAT TIMING IS EVERYTHING
- THE TIMING THAT JESUS WAS SENT TO THIS WORLD WAS PERFECT
- NOW IT WASN'T A TIME WHERE IT WAS EASY FOR JESUS TO COME IT WASN'T A TIME WHERE THE WORLD NECESSARILY WANTED HIM TO COME
- IT WAS A TIME WHERE CHAOS WAS ABOUNDING
- THE PEOPLE AT THAT TIME LOST HOPE.
- THEY WERE LIKE YEAH RIGHT THE "MESSIAH" IS GOING TO BRING PEACE! WE'VE BEEN WAITING LIKE 2000 YEARS!
- THE RELIGIOUS PEOPLE WERE TRYING TO BRING PEACE AND HOLD IT DOWN, BUT THEY WENT OFF AND GOT TWISTED.
- THEN THE ROMANS WERE TRYING TO MAINTAIN CONTROL THERE IN ISRAEL
- EVERYONE WAS TRYING TO WORK OUT PEACE WITH THEIR OWN HANDS AND EFFORTS BUT IT WAS NOT WORKING

- ISRAEL WAS ON THE BRINK OF AN UPRISING.
- THERE WAS 400 YEARS OF SILENCE FROM HEAVEN WHERE NO PROPHET OPENED UP THEIR MOUTH AND SAID THUS SAYS THE LORD
- THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN, THE UNLIKELIEST OF CHARACTERS APPEARS. JOHN THE BAPTIST
- A GUY THAT IS DRESSED IN CAMELS HAIR AND EATING BUGS AND NOT IN THE LIKELIEST OF PLACES WHERE YOU WOULD EXPECT TO FIND A PROPHET LIKE THE SYNAGOGUE, NO HE WAS OUTSIDE IN THE WILDERNESS AND WHAT WAS THE MESSAGE? WAS IT ABOUT REIGNING AND POWER AND TAKING OVER?
- NO IT WAS "THERE IS ONE WHO IS COMING AFTER ME" HE WAS PREACHING THE KINGDOM AND HOW TO GET PREPARED FOR IT ... REPENT FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND. LET ME BAPTIZE YOU IN REPENTANCE SO THAT WHEN THE KINGDOM COMES, HE WILL BE READY TO FILL YOU UP LEAD AND GUIDE.
- THE IMPORTANCE OF SOMEONE WHO HAS A MESSAGE FROM THE LORD ISN'T THE PERSON BUT RATHER THE MESSAGE
- HIS MESSAGE WAS POWERFUL HIS MESSAGE WAS ETERNAL
- THE MESSAGE AND THE MINISTRY THAT HE WAS PREACHING AND DOING WOULD GO BEYOND HIS TIMELINE
- LITTLE SIDE NOTE IN ORDER FOR YOU AND I TO EVER GIVE A MESSAGE OR DO ANYTHING THAT HAS ETERNAL VALUE WE MUST BE SPENDING TIME WITH THE ETERNAL ONE! WE NEED TO BE IN HIS PRESENCE CONSTANTLY
- WE CAN GET SO CAUGHT UP IN THE MOMENTS OF LIFE IN THE SEAS THAT RAGE AND BE CONSUMED BY THE TRIALS OF LIFE OR WE CAN BE CAUGHT UP IN HIS MERCY HIS GRACE AND UNDERSTAND THAT HE IS GOD.
- THAT'S WHAT JOHN DID HE SAID YOU KNOW WHAT I AM GOING TO GET AWAY IM GOING TO GO DOWN TO THE RIVER IM GOING TO BAPTIZE I AM GOING TO PREPARE PEOPLE FOR THE KINGDOM YOU WANT TO COME COOL IF YOU DON'T COOL. ALL I KNOW IS THIS IS WHAT I AM CALLED TO DO PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE KINGDOM SO THAT IS WHAT I WILL DO I DON'T FIT IN YOUR CHURCHES I DON'T BLEND IN WITH THE SPIRITUAL CROWD OK I AM NOT GOING TO MIX IN THE CHAOS. WHEN I KNOW THE KINGDOM IS ON THE MOVE.
- IF WE LOOK BACK AT THEIR TIMES WE CAN FIND SIMILARITIES WITH OUR TIMES. PEOPLE ARE LOOKING FOR HOPE, THEY ARE LOOKING FOR PEACE AND THE WORLD IS IN A STATE OF "YEAH RIGHT" WE HEARD THAT THE LORD IS COMING BACK FOR 2000 YEARS WE ARE TRYING TO FIGURE IT OUT ON OUR OWN NOW.
- PSALM 46:10 BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD; I WILL BE EXALTED AMONG THE NATIONS, I WILL BE EXALTED IN THE EARTH!

## I LOVE BREAKING DOWN VERSES.

- FOR GOD SO LOVED THAT HE GAVE. WE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT HE IS GIVING. IN HIS PRESENCE THERE IS FULLNESS OF JOY. WE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT IN GODS PRESENCE THERE IS FULLNESS.
- GOD DOESN'T WANT TO LEAVE US IN THE DARK WHEN IT COMES TO UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT HE'S DOING IN THE TRIBULATION. GOD DOESN'T WANT TO LEAVE US INCOMPLETE AND DESOLATE BY THE TRIAL HE WANTS US TO BE STILL AND WATCH HIM WORK THEREFORE HE SAYS BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD. THE PROBLEM IS WE AS A PEOPLE HAVE A HARD TIME BEING STILL SO THEREFORE WE HAVE A HARD TIME KNOWING THAT HE IS GOD.
- GODS GREATEST WORKS TAKE PLACE WHEN THE WORKS OF OUR HANDS CEASE.
- THEREFORE WHEN JOHN THE BAPTIST MADE A PROFOUND STATEMENT ABOUT JESUS... HIS STATEMENT WAS: NOW THE TIME HAS COME FOR I MUST DECREASE AND HE MUST INCREASE. HE'S ABOUT TO DO SOME WORK. HE'S ABOUT TO ESTABLISH ETERNAL HOPE. HE'S ABOUT TO BE GOD AND WE'RE ALL GONNA KNOW.
- WE DO NOT YIELD TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OR THE STORM OR CHAOS
- WE HAVE TO LOOK TO OUR CAPTAIN WHOS ABOVE IT ALL AND WITH US.
- HE SHOWS HIS
- OMNIPRESENT - EVERYWHERE
- OMNIPOTENCE ALL POWERFUL
- AND OMNISCIENCE ALL KNOWING IN THE MIDDLE OF IT ALL.

## THE UNEXPECTED PEOPLE

MARK 2:17 WHEN JESUS HEARD IT, HE SAID TO THEM, "THOSE WHO ARE WELL HAVE NO NEED OF A PHYSICIAN, BUT THOSE WHO ARE SICK. I DID NOT COME TO CALL THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT SINNERS, TO REPENTANCE."

- JESUS CAME TO THE UNEXPECTED TO DO THE UNEXPECTED
- HE CAME TO A CRAZY MAN BAPTIST
- TO TOUCH A LEPER
- TO FEED THE HUNGRY
- FIND THE LOST
- TO RAISE THE DEAD
- CAUSE THE BLIND TO SEE
- CAUSE THE LAME TO WALK
- TO CALL THE UNLIKELY
- AND TO CHANGE THE WORLD RADICALLY
- IN THE MOST UNEXPECTED WAY IMAGINABLE
- AND TO SPEAK PEACE TO A RAGING STORM WITH JUST A WORD.
- WHEN I WAS A KID I USED TO BE LIKE YEAH THE DISCIPLES WERE ABLE TO DO SUCH DOPE STUFF THEY HAD JESUS IN THE BOAT WITH THEM I MEAN COME ON HE FED THEM WITH THE 1ST EVER POSTMATES NO FOOD LET ME CALL IT IN BAM 5,000! THEY HAD IT EASY
- THEY WOULD ARGUE THAT WE HAVE IT WAY EASIER AND NOW I KNOW THAT THAT IS TRUE BECAUSE NOW WE HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLING WITHIN US.

- HE IS NOT ONLY IN THE BOAT WHEN WE ARE IN A TRIAL, HE IS IN US
- THE BEST PART ABOUT THE GOSPEL IS THAT BECAUSE HE RESURRECTED, HE NOW DWELLS WITHIN US FOREVER! HIS PRESENCE IS THERE WITHIN US
- HE IS NOT FAR OFF HE IS SO NEAR
- I HAVE THIS SAYING THAT I SHARE WITH MY HIGH SCHOOL KIDS AND JH KIDS I SAY FIGHT FOR THE WHISPERS OF THE LORD. HE IS NOT YELLING FROM A DISTANCE HE IS A STILL SMALL VOICE.
- GET A PROMISE AND A WORD FROM THE LORD MEDITATE UPON IT AND ALLOW THE LORD TO ESTABLISH YOUR STEPS IN IT.
- DO NOT SETTLE FOR JUST HEARING THE WORDS OF GOD AND MEMORIZING THEM LIVE THEM OUT!
- I WANT TO SEE THE PROMISES OF GOD COME TO FRUITION IN MY LIFE AND I WANT TO EXPERIENCE EVERYTHING THAT LORD HAS FOR ME HERE I WANT TO HEAR WHEN HE SPEAKS AND I WANT TO MOVE WHEN HE MOVES

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN EVERYONE'S LIVES, I DO KNOW THERE'S TRIALS I DO KNOW THERE MIGHT BE SOME DECISIONS THAT NEED TO BE MADE, I KNOW THAT THERE IS VICTORIES THAT NEED TO BE DECLARED OVER YOU, I DO KNOW THERE IS REPENTANCE THAT NEEDS TO TAKE PLACE AND THERE IS FORGIVENESS READY TO BE GIVEN RESTORATION READY TO DO ITS WORK, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT 2021 IS GOING TO BRING ALL I KNOW IS THAT I HAVE A SAVIOR WHO DIED AND RESURRECTED AND IS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF IT ALL HE HAS WRITTEN ALL MY TOMORROWS AND I REST SECURELY IN HIS PALM AND JUST LIKE THE LADY WHO WAS BLEEDING I DON'T KNOW IF I WILL EVEN BE ABLE TO TO GET HEALED IF I TOUCH HIM BUT YO ALL I KNOW THAT I'M GOING TO DRAW NEAR AND I AM GOING TO BE CHANGED.

GO BOLDLY TO THE THRONE ROOM OF GRACE WHERE YOU WILL RECEIVE UNDERSTANDING, GRACE, MERCY, GOODNESS, PEACE AND HOPE KNOWING THAT OUR ETERNAL FATHER IS ESTABLISHING HIS ETERNAL GOODNESS IN OUR LIVES AND THE PROMISE IS THAT IT WILL FOLLOW US ALL OF OUR DAYS.

WHEN I DRAW NEAR TO HIM HE BRINGS UNEXPECTED HOPE THROUGH THE POWER OF HIS WORD AND HOLY SPIRIT.

LAST STORY A LESSON FROM A 5 YEAR OLD TOOK CAI TO THE BEACH HE WAS TERRIFIED OF THE WAVES HE WAS TRYING TO LET GO OF MY HAND TRYING TO GO BACK TO SHORE ( HE DID NOT SEE THE WAVES COMING) HE CAME BACK AND SAID I LOVE THE OCEANS DAD BECAUSE GOD MADE THEM AND HE IS POWERFUL THAT HE SAYS THE WAVES CAN ONLY GO SO FAR SO IT WONT GET THE CARS

THE WAVES IN OUR LIVES CAN ONLY GO SO FAR GODS IN CONTROL

JOHN WAS LOOKING UP LOOKING FOR THE KINGDOM AND WHEN IT SHOWED UP HE KNEW "BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES THE SINS OF THE WORLD" MAY YOU AND I BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE WHEN GODS KINGDOM SHOWS UP IN OUR LIVES.