

REL 1310 – Christian Scriptures

Hello and welcome to the weekly resources for REL-1310!

These resources are structured a bit differently from other online study guides on the Baylor Tutoring website because the content in these courses are organized largely around biblical histories and narratives. Please take a look at other weekly resources listed on our website for additional topics from Christian Scriptures throughout the semester. Your professor might be discussing these topics in a different order than presented here.

We also invite you to take a look at the group tutoring chart on our website to see if this course has a group tutoring session offered this semester.

If you have any questions about these study guides, group tutoring sessions, private 30-minute tutoring appointments, the Baylor Tutoring YouTube channel or any tutoring services we offer, please visit our website www.baylor.edu/tutoring or call our drop-in center during open business hours, M-Th 9am-8pm on class days, at 254-710-4135.

The Gospel of Mark



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Fast Facts

- Tradition says it was written by **John Mark**
- Written **70 CE**
- Audience: **Gentile Christians**
- Emphasis on action: constantly uses the word *immediately*
- Pattern: Story, interruption, return to story (called **Markan sandwich**)
- **Messianic secret**: Jesus telling people not to reveal the things he says and does.
- Apostles struggling with faith
- Suffering Messiah
- **Does not include a story of Jesus's birth**
- Mark 16:9-20 is not included in the latest manuscripts we have, likely meaning it was not part of the original text.

Summary

- Chapter 1

- “Christ” in Greek = “Messiah” in Hebrew
- John the Baptist introduces Jesus.
- John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus.
- God calls Jesus his son.
- Jesus is tempted.
- John the Baptist is imprisoned.
- Chapters 2-8
 - Jesus calls his **inner circle** of apostles: **Andrew, Simon Peter, James, John**
 - Jesus teaches and heals.
 - Jesus becomes popular against his will.
- Chapters 8-10: Journey to Jerusalem
 - Peter confesses Jesus as the Christ.
 - Jesus transfigured in front of his inner circle, appearing bright as God did in the Old Testament.
 - Jesus asks the apostles not to tell people he is the Messiah since they think that he is going to be a warrior, not the suffering servant he came to be.
- Chapters 11-16
 - Called the **Passion Narrative**
 - Jesus enters Jerusalem and is celebrated.
 - Jesus disrupts the temple in Jerusalem.
 - Jesus has ‘the Last Supper’ with his disciples, where the wine they share represents Jesus’ blood and the bread they break together represents Jesus’ body, both foreshadowing his upcoming death.
 - Jesus predicts that Judas will betray him, and he does.
 - Jesus is arrested.
 - The high priest asks Jesus if he is the **Messiah**, the son of the Blessed One. Jesus confirms that he is.
 - Jesus is sent away from the high priest to face a trial by **Pontious Pilate** (the governor of Judea) Pilate found no fault in Jesus.
 - Pilate wanted to release Jesus, but the crowd demanded he be crucified.
 - So, Pilate had Jesus crucified.
 - While being crucified, Jesus said, “**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**”
 - When Jesus dies, darkness comes and the veil in the temple is torn.
 - After Jesus died and was buried, he was raised from the dead.
 - A heavenly messenger tells the disciples to go tell of what they had heard, but they do not since they are fearful.
- Character of the Apostles:
 - Not positive
 - They fail an exorcism.
 - They treat children poorly and Jesus has to tell them to treat the children well.

Test your knowledge!

Answers are at the bottom of the document.

- 1) What word is Mark known for repeatedly using, giving the book a fast-paced feel?
 - a. Immediately...
 - b. Eventually...
 - c. First...
 - d. Soon...
- 2) What is the Messianic secret?
 - a. Jesus was holding his identity secret from his closest followers.
 - b. God kept his plan for Jesus' life secret from him until the end of his life.
 - c. Jesus didn't want his followers to tell other people about who he is and what he does.
 - d. Jesus secretly told Peter that he would be betrayed.
- 3) What is the equivalent for the Greek word 'Christ' in Hebrew?
 - a. Melech
 - b. Yom
 - c. Messiah
 - d. Hevel
- 4) **According to the Gospel of Mark**, what did Jesus say while on the cross?
 - a. "Father, forgive them. For they know not what they do."
 - b. "Today, you will be with me in paradise."
 - c. "It is finished."
 - d. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- 5) Which disciple was NOT part of Jesus' inner circle?
 - a. Simon Peter
 - b. Matthew
 - c. James
 - d. John

Answers: 1) a. 2) c. 3) c. 4) d. Explanation: Jesus said all of the other three, just in different Gospels. 5) b.