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](http://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

Images were retrieved from Creative Commons.

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.