

# MARK

## The Gospel of Mark

- **Gospel as literature** - historical account of the life of Jesus intended to persuade reader that Jesus is the Messiah and should be followed
- 1<sup>st</sup> Gospel written; shortest
- Written btwn 63-65 to Roman Christians (predominantly Gentile)
- Written by (John) Mark – see Acts 12.12, 13.13, and 2Tim 4.11
- Peter - primary source; see 1Pet 5.13
- Scan QR for overview





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## Purpose:

- **Mk 1.1** – The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,
- **Gospel** – good news; message that Jesus is the Messiah and Kingdom of God is coming through Him
- **Messiah** – anointed one; One sent by God to make things right for His people and establish His Kingdom
- **Son of God** – speaks to both unique relationship btwn Jesus and Father and Jesus' divinity



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## John the Baptist

- **Mal 3.1**- I will send My messenger who will prepare My way before Me
- **Isa 40.3** – A voice of one calling, ‘in the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord’
- **Mal 4.5** - See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes.
  - **2Kgs 1.8** - They replied, “He had a garment of hair and had a leather belt around his waist.” The king said, “That was Elijah the Tishbite.”



# MARK

**John prepares the way by:**

- **Calling people to be baptized as sign of repentance**
  - **Repent** – to change one’s mind; always carries idea of a corresponding change of behavior
- **Announcing the Messiah will follow him/be coming soon**
  - **Ez 36.27:** And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.



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**Deut 8.2 and 5:** Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, **to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart**, whether or not you would keep his commands... Know then in your heart **that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you.**

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**Wilderness** – barren, mostly uninhabited land that can't be farmed; also translated 'desert' – more rocky than sandy





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- Do not be deceived, Wormwood. Our [Satan's] cause is never more in danger than when a human, no longer desiring, but still intending, to do our Enemy's [God's] will, looks round upon a universe from which every trace of Him seems to have vanished, and asks why he has been forsaken, and still obeys.
  - - *The Screwtape Letters*