

The "Glad Tidings" of Jesus Christ
Mark 1:1-8

Revelation 4:7 describes the cherubim around God's throne as beings with four faces: the face of a lion, of a calf, of a man, and of an eagle. By long tradition, the church has associated one of these "faces" with each one of the Gospels, according to the character and message of the particular Gospel. In the cathedrals of Europe, you will find the motif repeated again and again, of each one of these creatures, typically with a book. By tradition, the creature that represents the Gospel of Mark is the calf or the ox - a creature of work and service. The Gospel of Mark shows Jesus as the Servant of God, as a Workman of God. Guzik

- I. Each gospel emphasizes something different about Jesus Christ. The gospel of Matthew was written to the Jew to show that Jesus is the Messiah. The gospel of Luke shows the humanity of Christ. The gospel of John was written as a testimony to the deity of Christ. And the gospel of Mark portrays Jesus as the servant of the Lord sent to serve both God and man. Each gospel presents the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ who sacrificed himself for our sins so that whosoever believes upon him shall not perish but have everlasting life (Jn. 3:16).

Mark 1:1

Isa. 11:21

Matt. 1:1

Zech. 6:12-13

Luke 3:38

Jn. 20:30-31

Phil. 2:5-8

Acts 12:11-14

Acts 15:36-40

2 Timothy 4:11

1 Peter 5:13

***εὐαγγέλιον euangélion** = good tidings, the glad tidings of the kingdom of God soon to be set up, and subsequently also of Jesus the Messiah, the founder of this kingdom. The glad tidings of salvation through Christ. The proclamation of the grace of God manifest and pledged in Christ. The gospel*

***πιστευθῆναι τὸ εὐαγγέλιον** = To be entrusted with the gospel.*

***1 Thessalonians 2:4** On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts.*

- II. God always sends a herald or ambassador to proclaim the "good news" or "glad tidings" of the gospel message. In the time of Jesus Christ's first coming, God broke his silence of 400 years through a man named John, who fulfilled the prophecies spoken about him by both Malachi and Isaiah. His proclamation was a message of repentance and baptism to prepare the way for the imminent arrival of the Messiah. Repentance is a necessary part of understanding the gospel message. Without it, there can be no clear understanding of why the gospel is necessary, let alone knowing the importance of submitting to the Lordship of Jesus Christ over our lives.

Mark 1:2-5

Malachi 3:1

Isa. 40:3

Rev. 9:20-21

Rev. 16:9

Rev. 16:11

Rev. 2:5, 2:16, 3:3, 3:19

John = "Jehovah is a gracious giver"

μετάνοια metanoia = a change of mind, as it appears to one who repents, of a purpose he has formed or of something he has done

Acts 20:21 *I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our LORD Jesus.*

- III. John's message makes clear to all who believe upon Jesus for eternal life, that upon salvation we are totally immersed with the presence of the Holy Spirit in our body, soul, and spirit. We have received the Spirit who is from God so that we may understand what God has freely given us. He also makes his fruit an intimate part of our existence so that can be salt and light (Matt. 5:16) in a world that is in desperate need of God's grace, love and mercy.

Mark 1:6-8

2 Kings 1:8

Lev. 11:22

1 Cor. 2:12

1 Cor. 6:19 *Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;*

Eph. 4:30 *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*