

Introduction to Mark through 1:8

1. Who is Mark
2. How is Jesus portrayed in Mark?
 - a. A man of authority
 - b. A man of power
 - c. Someone to be feared
 - d. Someone who is divine
 - e. Someone who is human
 - f. Someone who is odd
3. Depiction of characters
 - a. Disciples
 - i. Positives
 - ii. Negatives
 - b. Minor Characters
 - c. Enemies
4. Characteristics of the Plot
 - a. No chronology early in the story
 - b. A sense of urgency especially early in the story
 - c. Conflict is high throughout the story
 - d. Concealment frequently occurs

- e. Jesus interacts with demonic forces personally
- f. A second story is often embedded within the first
- g. Structural divisions of the story are neither clear nor obvious
- h. Stories are fuller and packed with more detail than in the other Gospels
- i. A noticeable concern with Jewish laws, especially purity laws
- j. Jesus' words are sure and always come to pass
- k. Both deductive and inductive

1:1-8

1. The quote in verses 2 is weird because it seems to be combination of Exodus 23:20 and Malachi 3:1 or at least similar to both.
 - a. Exodus refers to the people of Israel with the pronoun "you"
 - b. The text from Malachi refers to Yahweh with the pronoun "me"
 - c. Who then does Mark want us to see Jesus as?
 - i. He is the people of God, whom the messenger (John) will proceed
 - ii. He is the Lord himself, who is coming to his temple
2. Why does John cry out in the wilderness?
3. What was John's baptism?
4. John's clothing should evoke the image of Elijah (2 Kings 1:8)
5. How is Jesus' baptism different?
6. Outpouring of the spirit (Joel 2:28)