

Mark: The Gospel and The Big Story of The Bible

1. The "thin" Jesus

2. The "FAT" gospels

Two aims for this session

- a. To excite you about how excitingly rich the gospels are

- b. To excite you about how excitingly joined-up the gospels and the OT are

3. Mark's carefully constructed gospel

a. It has a style, e.g.

- "immediately"

- The use of "threes"
 - Jesus prays x3
 - Large teaching blocks x3 (4, 7, 13)
 - Jesus predicts his death x3 (8:29, 9:31, 10:33)
 - Events often grouped into triads

- Creative juxtaposition
e.g.

15:37-39	What's the surprise?
11:11-28	What things are being placed next to each other? (see 11, 13, 15, 20, 27) What effect do you think this has?

b. It has a journey

i. One direction Galilee → Jerusalem

ii. Three phases Galilee → "On the way" → Jerusalem
 1-9 9-10 11-16

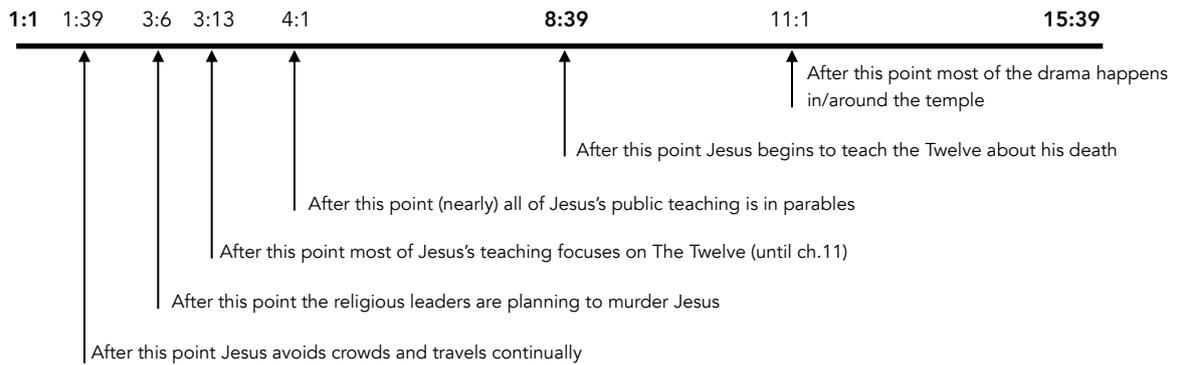
iii. Intriguing phase-related content

e.g. The unclean spirits
"On the way/road"

Only in the Galilee phase
Entirely dominated by teaching about his death

iv. Significant changes of pace

c. It has landmarks/turning points

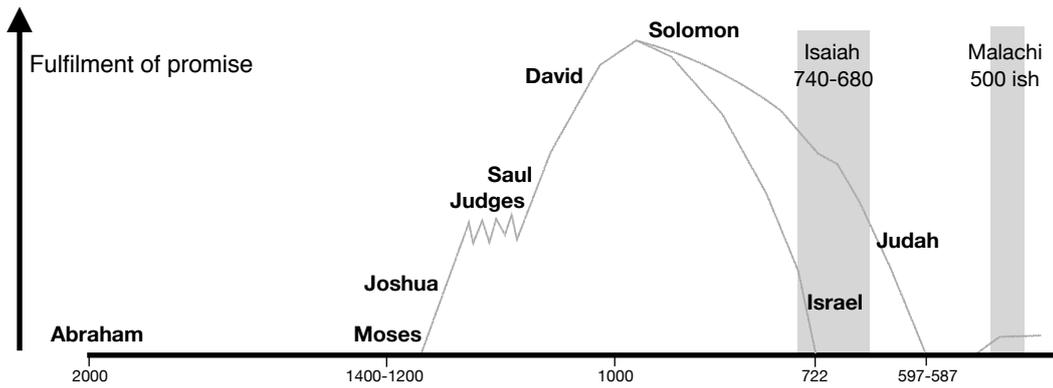


d. Why this all matters

4. Mark's OT-driven gospel

a. Read 1:1-6 What's the surprise?

b. He starts with the Old Testament ("Isaiah")



Isaiah 40:3	Malachi 3:1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A voice announcing the Lord • Where is the Lord coming to? (9-11) • What is the result going to be? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A messenger preparing the way for the Lord • Where is the Lord coming to? (1) • How's it going to be when he comes? (2)

c. Mark's journey

Where is the Lord coming to in Mark? 11:1

Where does he go when he gets there? 11:11

Remind you of anything?

d. John's clothing (1:6)

Why mention it? (2 Kings 1:7-8)

Why does that matter?

Back to Malachi ... this time chapter 4:5

- It's quite like chapter 3:1 ... a messenger comes before the Lord comes
- Who is the messenger?
- What will happen if he doesn't turn people back?

e. What happens to John/Elijah in Mark?

1:14 In prison

6:27 Executed

9:13 "Elijah has come, and they have done to him everything they wished."

- What are you expecting to happen now? (bearing in mind Malachi 4:5)

- What does Jesus do after his visit to the temple? 11:14-21

f. What else does Jesus do in Jerusalem?

5. How Mark uses the OT

- a. Direct quotation Isaiah is particularly important here
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|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1:2-3 (Is 40:3) | 4:12 (Is 6:9-10) | 7:6 (Is 29:13) | 9:48 (Is 66:24) |
| 11:17 (Is 56:7) | 12:1-8 (Isaiah 5) | 13:24-25 (Is 13:10, 34:4) | |

- b. Allusion These are many and varied

e.g. John's clothes in ch 1

e.g. Mark 6:30-44

Discuss these two sets of details. What do they remind you of?

- i. • A "wilderness" place (31, 32, 35)
• Lots of bread, miraculously provided (43)
• A large number of people fed (33, 34, 44)

What OT event does this remind you of?

- ii. • Sheep needing a shepherd (34)
• Green grass (39)
• Satisfied diners (42)

What OT passage does this remind you of?

6. Conclusions