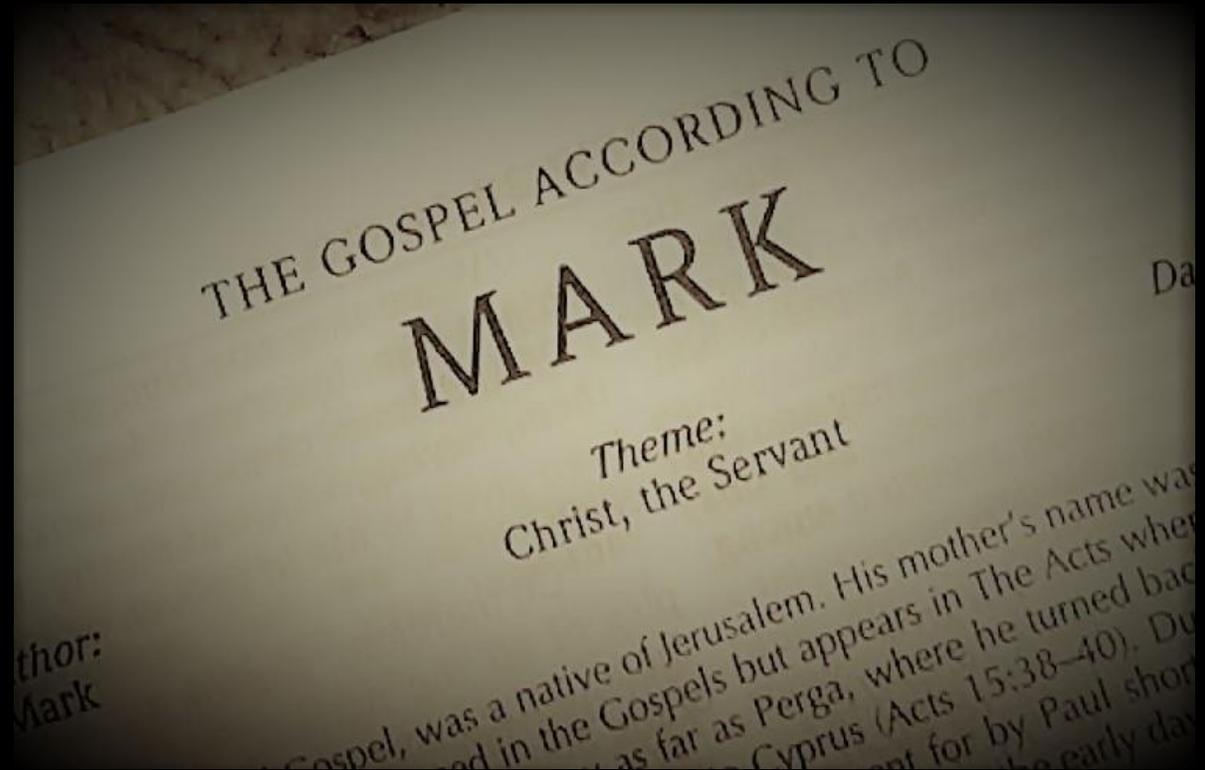


# Verse by Verse

## Mark 10



# Mark 10 Introduction

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- Jesus has completed his ministry in Galilee and at this point turns south toward Jerusalem.
- The Gospel of Mark is moving toward its climax – toward Jesus's trials, suffering death and resurrection.
- There is still more ministry and teaching for him to do along the way.

# Mark 10 Key Verse

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- Mark 10:45 (ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

# Mark 10 Outline

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1. Divorce 10:1-12
2. Children 10:13-16
3. Riches 10:17-31
4. Up to Jerusalem 10:32-34
5. A Request 10:35-45
6. Blind Bartimaeus 10:46-52

# 1. Divorce 10:1-12

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- It is true that the Law, the *Torah*, allowed for divorce.
- It is also true that even in the New Testament there are a couple of places that explain when divorce is allowed.
- Remarriage is even biblically possible.
- But none of that is on Jesus's mind right here in **Mark 10**.

# 1. Divorce 10:1-12

- Jesus shifts the discussion from “What does God allow?” to “What does God desire?”
- In other words, “What is God’s intention for marriage?”
- In case you missed it, here, once more, is the answer.

# 1. Divorce 10:1-12

- Mark 10:6-9 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup> But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup> 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, <sup>8</sup> and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. <sup>9</sup> What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

# 1. Divorce 10:1-12

- Prior to the entrance of sin into the world, God's plan for marriage was as follows:
- One man was to be joined with one woman in a once-and-for-all inseparable bond.
- While the plan is still more or less intact on God's side, our fallen race has distorted the reality beyond all recognition.
- This is wrong – and it is our fault, not God's.

# 1. Divorce 10:1-12

- Notice further that God's plan is essential to the creation story, at the beginning of the human race, in **Genesis 2**.
- If we reject this, what's left that is not open to question?

# 1. Divorce 10:1-12

*The denial of sexual and marital norms by believers is often adjacent to a rejection of the core tenets of the faith. That's because to arrive at these "inclusive" and "affirming" positions on marriage, Christians must exalt intoxicants such as emotion over uncompromising scripture, tradition, and natural law ...*

*– Katy Faust, children's rights advocate;  
married mother of four, one adopted*



# 1. Divorce 10:1-12

*Once you shift the authority from sola scriptura to sola feels, it's only a matter of time before every other orthodox teaching finds itself on the woke chopping block. <sup>1</sup>*

*– Katy Faust, children's rights advocate; married mother of four, one adopted*



# 1. Divorce 10:1-12

- A recent example – sadly one of many – is the ex-mega-church pastor Joshua Harris.
- He and his wife Shannon announced that they were divorcing and that he no longer considers himself a Christian.
- No sense telling more of that story.

## 2. Children 10:13-16

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- I am not 100% sure why the disciples rebuked those bringing children to Jesus.
- I am 100% sure that a childlike faith and trust in God is essential to our connection with him.

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

- This man appears in all three synoptic gospels.
- **Mark** tells us he had “great possessions” (v.22).
- **Matthew** calls him a “young man” (Matthew 19:22).
- **Luke** calls him “a ruler” (Luke 18:18) and says he was “extremely rich” (Luke 18:23).

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

- If we put all three together we get the traditional title for him as “the rich young ruler.”
- By the way, that also shows us why it is helpful to have a number of separate Gospels.
- Each author adds a little to the story.

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

- Despite the man's great possessions, the one thing he lacked was the childlike faith and trust Jesus just mentioned.
- Wealthy people can be accustomed to getting things done and making things happen – for themselves or others.
- Inheriting eternal life is not like that.

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

- 10:25 easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle
- Perhaps you have heard the story that this is referring to a small gate in the Jerusalem wall.
- It was a struggle for a camel to go through it as it was made only for people to walk through.
- Please give up on that story.

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

- 10:25 easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle
- There are two problems with it:
  1. There is no evidence that any such gate ever existed.
  2. It misses the point which is to say that **only God can save**, which Jesus makes in **v.27**.
- Jesus was simply using an absurd illustration to make his point, like “shoving an elephant through a keyhole.”

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

- **10:21** And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”
- Jesus loved this man, but at the same time knew precisely where his problem (idol?) was – and tells him to get rid of it.
- This is sometimes how Jesus works.

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

*Progressive Christians are under the wrong impression that ours is a gospel of affirmation: the idea that God affirms everything we think and say and do and want. This misconceived notion of the gospel believes that for God to genuinely love us, he has to love everything about us<sup>1</sup>*

*– Katy Faust, children's rights advocate; married mother of four, one adopted*



### 3. Riches 10:17-31

- Jesus takes sin very seriously and so should we.
- **Matthew 5:29-30** (ESV)

<sup>29</sup> If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup> And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

### 3. Riches 10:17-31

*In this self-esteem-driven, everyone-gets-a-prize culture, a God who sometimes disapproves of our thoughts and behavior ... appears to be quite a bigot ...*

*– Katy Faust, children's rights advocate; married mother of four, one adopted*



### 3. Riches 10:17-31

*In the “Born This Way” version of the Gaga gospel, Matthew 5:29 would read, “If your right eye causes you to stumble, by all means, redefine the word ‘stumble’ because, well, I wouldn’t want you to lose an eye now, would I?”<sup>1</sup>*

*– Katy Faust, children’s rights advocate; married mother of four, one adopted*



## 4. Up to Jerusalem 10:32-34

## 4. Up to Jerusalem 10:32-34

- This is Jesus giving them a heads up about what was going to happen to him very soon.
- It wasn't until he rose from the dead that this finally sunk in.

## 5. A Request 10:35-45

## 5. A Request 10:35-45

- We were made to rule over creation as God's personal representatives.
- The problem is that our sin has corrupted that desire and turned it into something sick and selfish.
- James (Jacob) and John will rule with Jesus, but this wasn't the time to talk about that.
- Our sin needed to be dealt with first.

## 5. A Request 10:35-45

- Here is that key verse once again.
- **Mark 10:45** (ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

## 5. A Request 10:35-45

- God the Son came as a man, as one of us, to serve us by taking care of the biggest need that we have – our sin.
- He did this despite the fact, *or even because* we, the entire human race, have chronically refused to serve him.

## 5. A Request 10:35-45

- If you want to know how ugly your sin looks to God, just look at the cross.
- An agonizingly slow, painful, bloody, tortuous, shameful death is precisely what our sin deserves.
- The cross is the necessary method used by God to clean up the awful and ugly mess that we made of his world.

## 6. Blind Bartimaeus 10:46-52

## 6. Blind Bartimaeus 10:46-52

- Blind Bart refers to Jesus as “Son of David” (vv. 47 & 48).
- This means that he saw Jesus as Israel’s Messiah.
- “Rabbi,” (v. 51) in the original is very personal “my teacher,” but can also have connotations of “My Lord, my Master.”
- Clearly Bart expresses a childlike faith and trust that the rich young ruler could not.
- Bart also had nothing to lose.

# Mark 10    What We Just Read

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# Mark 10    Key Points

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- In the areas of sexuality, marriage, divorce and remarriage, the American church has imitated the culture to an extreme.
- As a result, there is almost no one in average congregation that does not have something to repent of in this area.
- Most often, however, we want to point fingers outside the church or somehow hold onto our sin.
- It's time for a wholesale self-examination and repentance – changing what we can as completely as we can.

# Mark 10    Key Points

- Then let's look for any other obstacles to our faith.
- For the rich young ruler it was his possessions.
- For us it may be the same – or maybe something else.
- Jesus deserves and desires complete commitment from us.
- He wants childlike faith, simple trust, as if we were blind beggars with nothing to lose.

# Mark 10    A Prayer

# Mark 10    A Prayer

- Dear heavenly Father,
- We acknowledge that we are sinful people who live in the midst of a sinful nation. Particularly in the areas of marriage and sexuality we have so distorted your desires for us that there is no way left for us to untie the knots.
- Please forgive us, please transform us and please help us to make right whatever we can.
- Help us to rely fully on the sacrifice of Jesus to cleanse us of our sin.

# Mark 10    A Prayer

- Help us to exercise a childlike faith and trust in you.
- Like the blind beggar Bartimaeus, we really are helpless and have nothing at all to lose – except perhaps our sin and shame.
- Therefore, we submit fully to Jesus as our Savior, Messiah and Lord.
- In Christ,
- Amen.

# Mark 10    References

1. Faust, Katy. <https://thefederalist.com/2019/11/08/whats-incredibly-damaging-to-the-gospel-joshua-harris-are-your-lies-about-it/> (Accessed 11/09/2019)