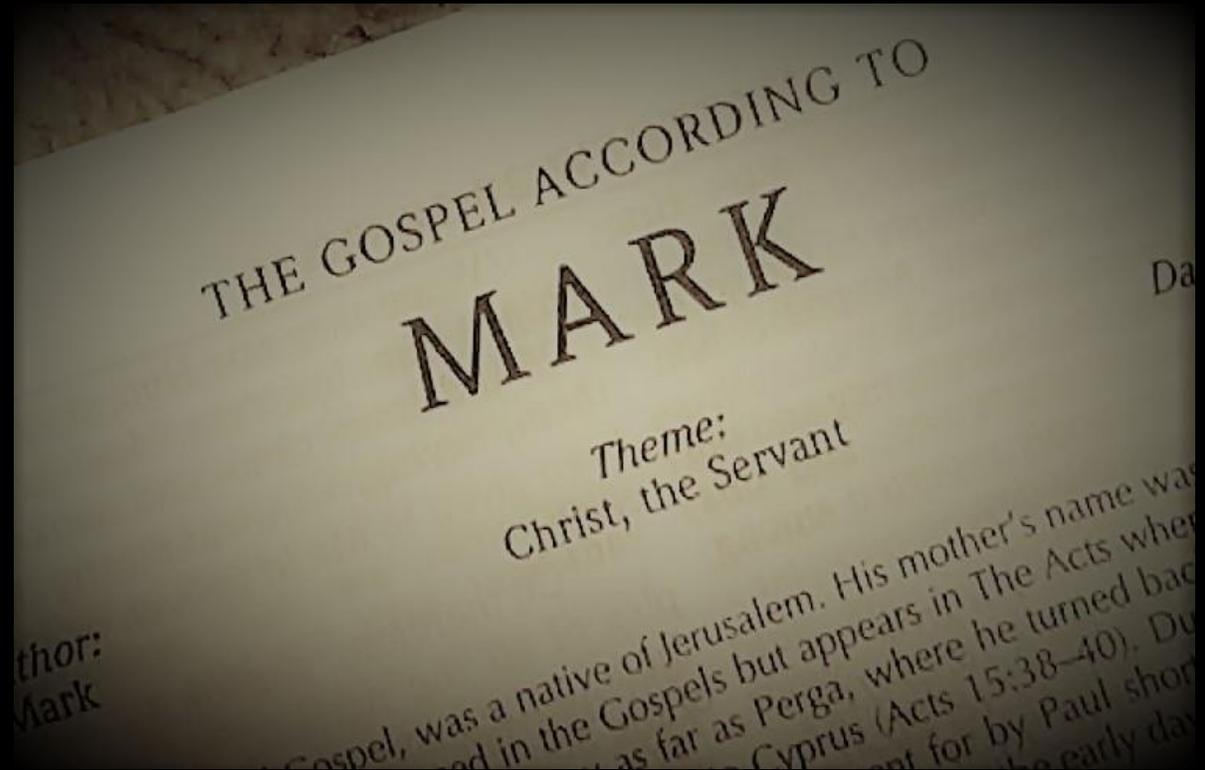


Verse by Verse

Mark 14



Mark 14 Introduction

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- We are nearing the end of the **Gospel of Mark**.
- This chapter will take us through Christ's last Passover with his disciples and the institution of the Lord's Supper.
- We will also see Jesus in Gethsemane followed by his arrest and the beginning of his trials.
- We will read about the betrayal of Christ by Judas and the denial of Christ by Peter, on which the chapter will end.

Mark 14 Key Verses

Mark 14 Key Verses

- Mark 14:61-62 (ESV)

⁶¹ But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” ⁶² And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.”

Mark 14 Plan for the Chapter

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- In order to capture the flow of these important events we are going to read the chapter straight through.
- After that we will come back and look at the actions of three people from which we can learn important lessons.

Mark 14 Plan for the Chapter

1. A Woman's Sacrifice
2. Peter's Failure
3. Christ's Obedience

Mark 14

- First, let's read the chapter through.

1. A Woman's Sacrifice

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- The woman is not named in **Mark 14:3-9**.
- In **John 12:1-8** we learn that this is **Mary of Bethany**, the sister of Martha and Lazarus.

1. A Woman's Sacrifice

- The **pure nard** ointment, sometimes called **spikenard**, was very costly and extremely fragrant.
- It normally came from India and was probably among the most valuable things that Mary owned.
- Today it is often sold as an essential oil.

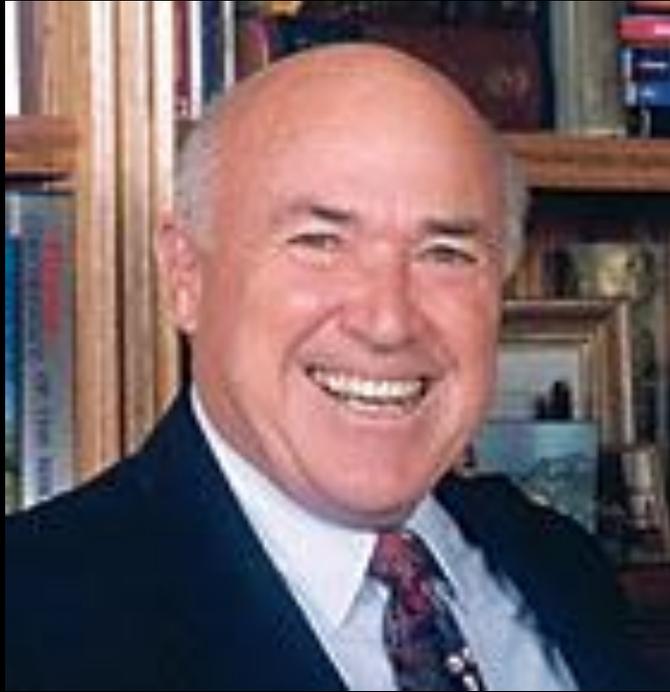
1. A Woman's Sacrifice

- The price mentioned by those present, “more than three hundred denarii,” would have been about a year's wages.
- John tells us that Judas was the primary complainer, but he adds that Judas used to pilfer the moneybag.

1. A Woman's Sacrifice

- Jesus defends what the woman has done as “a beautiful thing,” in light of his upcoming death.
- This is where there is a lesson for us to learn.
- Nothing that we sacrifice for Jesus is ever wasted.

1. A Woman's Sacrifice



There are those today who would suggest that certain acts of devotion to the Lord are a waste of money. Many gifted young people who desire to go into the ministry are told by guidance counselors, teachers, friends, and family members that they are wasting their potential. But know this: Nothing that is given to Jesus is ever wasted.¹

– Chuck Smith in the Word for Today Bible

1. A Woman's Sacrifice

- 1 Corinthians 15:58 (ESV)

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

2. Peter's Failure

2. Peter's Failure

- **Mark 14:27-31** (ESV)

²⁷ And Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ ²⁸ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” ²⁹ Peter said to him, “Even though they all fall away, I will not.” ³⁰ And Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” ³¹ But he said emphatically, “If I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And they all said the same.

2. Peter's Failure

- Peter's heart was probably in the right place.
- His confidence is, in a way, to be admired.
- The other disciples all seemed to be right there with him in affirming their devotion to Jesus.
- But as Jesus says later in v.38, "The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

2. Peter's Failure

- We might be tempted to go a little hard on Peter for failing at this special time in Christ's ministry.
- As we look at Peter, my hope is that we can see a little – or even a lot – of ourselves.
- How often have we made promises to Christ and then not followed through – even when we had less to lose?

2. Peter's Failure

- Peter's problem was not in his desire, but in his misplaced trust in himself.
- We can see it a little bit in v.47, as John tells us that it was Peter that drew his sword and cut off the servant's ear.
- At a highly spiritual moment, Peter is trusting in his ability with an earthly weapon.

2. Peter's Failure

- If we look at v.38 once more, and this time read the whole verse, we see how Jesus views our situation.

“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

- We need God's help to get through the challenges that we face – they are more than we can handle on our own.

2. Peter's Failure

- Our prayer life doesn't so much grow out of a high level of commitment or discipline, as some might think.
- It grows out of a great sense of our need.
- And we might add that this is an accurate view of how things really are.

2. Peter's Failure

- 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (ESV)

¹² Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

3. Christ's Obedience

3. Christ's Obedience

- In a way, the battle that was won at the cross was already won in the Garden of Gethsemane.
- Christ, in his distress, was agonizing over whether to go to the cross, knowing what that truly meant.

3. Christ's Obedience

- It was not the physical torture that made this sacrifice terrible, for many had endured that before him.
- It was the weight of our sin placed upon him that made Christ's death worse than any other.

3. Christ's Obedience

- **Mark 14:34-36** (ESV)

³⁴ And he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death ...” ³⁵ And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

³⁶ And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”

3. Christ's Obedience

- It was not a lack of God's power that sent Jesus to the cross.
- In **Matthew 26:53**, Jesus even reminded Peter that “**twelve legions of angels**” were ready to save him from his trials.
- Christ suffered for our salvation, out of love for you and me.

3. Christ's Obedience

- 1 John 4:9-11 (ESV)

⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Mark 14 What We Just Read

Mark 14 What We Just Read

1. Jesus Is Anointed at Bethany
2. The Passover with the Disciples
3. The Lord's Supper
4. Jesus Praying in the Garden of Gethsemane
5. Betrayal by Judas and Arrest
6. Jesus before the Council
7. Peter Denies the Lord Three Times

Mark 14 Key Points

Mark 14 Key Points

1. **A Woman's Sacrifice** – from which we learn that nothing we do for Jesus is ever wasted.
2. **Peter's Failure** – from which we learn that we should not trust ourselves, but rather rely on God's strength.
3. **Christ's Obedience** – from which we learn that the cross of Christ was God's solitary chosen way to save us.

Mark 14 Key Verses

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- Mark 14:61-62 (ESV)

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Mark 14 A Prayer

Mark 14 A Prayer

- Dear Father in heaven,
- What can we ever say or do to thank you for your great love for us? In truth, we can never repay you, and can never match Christ's sacrifice, which was offered for our sins.
- The best we can do is give you our lives, our abilities and our possessions and ask you to use us to accomplish your will.
- Help us to express complete obedience to you without relying on ourselves.

Mark 14 A Prayer

- Like the woman in the story of the fragrant ointment, help us to offer you all that we have.
- Like Jesus in the garden, help us to see that your will for us is better than our own will, whatever that may be.
- Help us to live our the words, “Thy will be done.”
- In Christ our Lord,
- Amen.

Mark 14 References

1. Chuck Smith, 2005. *The Word for Today Bible*. Nashville, Nelson, 1306.