

## **The Beginning of the Gospel**

Mark 1:1-8

**Context** - Mark was a companion of the Apostle Peter, who accompanied him on his journeys and wrote an account of Jesus Christ.

**Main Idea** - Mark quickly introduces the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his forerunner John the Baptist.

**Gospel** - Gospel means good news. In its context, it is specifically the good news of salvation available through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### **As you begin a study of the Gospel of Jesus Christ...**

#### **1. \_\_\_\_\_ His titles (vs. 1)**

A. Christ - The Anointed Messiah and promised King to fulfill the prophecies of Israel.

B. Son of God - This is an affirmation of Jesus' deity, stressing His unique relationship to the Father.

C. Lord (vs. 3) - A title reserved only for God, Mark is clearly telling us that Jesus is God.

#### **2. \_\_\_\_\_ His forerunner (vs. 2-7)**

A. Mark identifies John the Baptist fulfilling the Old Testament prophecies of the one who would prepare the way for the Lord.

B. John the Baptist will be identified by Jesus himself as the one who comes in the spirit of Elijah (Mal. 4:5; Matt. 11:13-14; Mark 9:11-13)

#### **3. \_\_\_\_\_ His unique baptism (vs. 8)**

A. John's baptism was a baptism of repentance, while Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

B. The Holy Spirit 'baptizes' believers at the moment of conversion. (Ephesians 1:13; Acts 2:38; Titus 3:5).