

Review Questions Regarding the Gospel of Mark

(Pas. Baines, Jr. 11/10)

1. Who wrote this Gospel, to whom was it written, and when was it written?

Mark, the son of Mary (see Acts 12:12), is thought to write the book. It was written to the Romans. And it was written around 50-60 A.D.

2. What happened with Mark in Acts 15:37-40 and II Timothy 4:11? And what application can be drawn from these events?

In Acts Mark abandoned Paul, and Paul did not trust him to go on a subsequent journey. In II Timothy, we see Paul and Mark reconciled. One application is that falling doesn't have to be fatal, as was the case with Mark. A second application is that we should allow people an opportunity to show that they have changed.

3. In chapter one, we see that John's baptism is the same as Christian baptism. True or **False**

John's baptism was about repentance towards the Law. Christian baptism is about identifying with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

4. In chapter one, Jesus healed the sick, but God doesn't heal today. True or **False**

Jesus did heal the sick, and God does heal today. All of those who claim to have the gift of healing may not be legitimate, but God is still able.

5. In chapter two (vss. 18-20), we are told that we should fast, at least on a weekly basis. True or **False**

There is no instruction for 21st century believers to fast. Fasting is something that may be helpful for nurturing our spiritual sensitivity, demonstrating our seriousness about living for the Lord, or something of this nature. However, it doesn't force God into doing what we want Him to do. It doesn't replace our need to obey God's word.

6. In chapter three (vs.14), we see that discipleship should come before leadership. **True** or False

When a person tries to give leadership in the church without first growing in his/her discipleship the results are often embarrassing. That is why we are moving towards requiring the demonstration of discipleship, before allowing people to serve in seats of leadership. Report cards help us be somewhat objective in this area.

7. In chapter four (vss.4, 15), there is such a thing as satanic ignorance. **True** or False

We must work hard to keep the devil/Satan from keeping us in the darkness of ignorance. There is something wrong when on one hand we complain about redundancy and on the other hand say that we don't know. We must keep the devil from influencing us to be too lazy to read, write, and learn.

8. In chapter five (vs. 37), Jesus treated all of His disciples as if they were equal or on the same level. True or **False**

Jesus had an inner circle of three, a group of 12, a group of 70, and the masses. Our level of faithfulness has much to do with our status and how we are treated. People who joined church five years ago, got mad, left, and just popped back up today are not treated as those who have

stayed. Those who have not been faithful in studying, serving, and giving are not given the same assignments as those who have obeyed those who have rule over them.

9. In chapter six (vss. 7, 12, 30), we see that being sendable and accountable to the leader is important. **True** or False

Jesus and His disciples are often examples for believers to live by. The church is terribly limited, when there are no capable people who are humble and competent enough to be sent to do what the leader sends them to do. And then they need to come back and report to the leader about what the leader sent them to do. This is much easier for disciples than for simply members or those who should really just be visitors.

10. In chapter seven (vs.5), we see that religious leaders cannot be used by the devil. True or **False**

It is sad but true that the devil loves to use people who are in seats of influence in God's program. That is why it is so important for us to study together and strive to obey together, so the devil doesn't draft us into his army or use us without our knowledge or permission. Some can be doing what they think is right, but they are actually doing wrong (see Pro. 14:12).

11. In chapter eight (vs. 8 [11-13]), Jesus did not allow religious enemies to control His agenda and energy. **True** or False

There are people who will try to tie your time up with silly, shallow, and vain conversations and activities. This is especially the case with those who are doing a great work for the Lord. We must seek the wisdom and courage to say "no." Everyone doesn't have a right to sit in the VIP section of your attention and energy.

12. In chapter nine (vs. 19), we see an example of Jesus' impatience. **True** or False

Jesus and those who belong to Him get angry when there is not adequate results for the efforts that have been given and the time that has transpired. God is on a time table. We would do better to try to keep up with Him than to try to slow Him down for our convenience.

13. In chapter ten (vss. 21-23 and 12:1-9), is God for or against His people being wealthy in this world?

God desires that we live abundantly (see Jn. 10:10), which often includes wealth. Notice in Mark 12 that God may cause harm on those who disturb His profit intentions. However, God never wants our wealth to become our God. When we don't freely give, after we pay our tithes, we are behaving like wealth is our God. The sin of the rich man in Mark 10 was not his wealth, but how he loved his wealth more than obeying God's will.

14. In chapter eleven (vss. 9-10), name something good and something bad about the enthusiastic worship that we see.

God is great enough for us to have an enthusiastic "Jesus rally" every week. It is good to see the enthusiasm of our text. However, zeal without knowledge is dangerous. The people of the text were shouting about the wrong thing. Let's shout about the right things – God has been good, God is being good, and God will be good to His own. Failure to make a joyful noise unto the Lord is sin.

15. In chapter twelve (vss. 43-44), Jesus shows that poor people needed to be more concerned with paying their bills than trying to pay tithes and offerings. True or **False**
Every believer should give as God has given unto them. Those with little should give little, and those with much should give much. When we obey God, He is more likely to bless us to be able to make ends meet. Those who struggle financially need God's financial favor more than those with much money; consequently, the poor or struggling should be the first to give God what belongs to Him.

16. In chapter thirteen (vss. 26-27), we see that Jesus has plans to come back to the earth. **True** or False
Not only is this true, but it should be the hope of believers. The things of this world are sinking sand.

17. In chapter fourteen (vs. 3), we see that Jesus rejected special treatment being given to Pastors and others whom God uses (their reward is in heaven). True or **False**
There is a rich blessing in being a blessing to those God send your way. When you bless them as a blessing sent from God, God has a way of blessing you for your faithfulness. This is the mindset behind the "Pastor Love Ministry." Those who don't give with pure motives should not give.

18. In chapter fifteen (vs. 21), we see that everyone in the Bible was White. True or **False**
There have always been people of color in Africa. Consequently, when we think about how close Jerusalem is to Africa (i.e., about 250 miles or less, about from Cincinnati to Cleveland, Ohio), we can be more than comfortable that everybody was not as pale as Charleston Hesston.

19. In chapter sixteen, there are serious questions about vss. 9-20 being authentic scripture. **True** or False
These verses are not found in the best of early manuscripts, even though they seem to reinforce some of the ideas that we see in other passages, except for the drinking poison idea.

20. Was Jesus equally as patient and understanding with the people, His disciples, and Pharisees? What applications can be drawn from your answer?
No – the more that was given to you by way of status or the like, the more Jesus expected of you. Consequently, He is most patient with the masses of people. And He is least patient with His disciples and the Pharisees. The application for us is that the more we learn, the more we should mature. Our maturity should be shown in how we live. When we don't act according to divine expectation, we should expect impatience and then discipline, from not only leaders but from God as well.

22. Since faith is so important in living by the will of God, how can we develop our faith?
We develop our faith by prayerfully studying and obeying God's will for our lives. Regular personal study and church sponsored studies with the use of the study questions and tools are very helpful in this regard.