

God's Masterwork, Volume Five God with Us — A Survey of Matthew – Acts

Mark: The Servant at Work

A SURVEY OF MARK



The Heart of the Matter

Action. Movement. Involvement. Service. Eutheos is the Greek term repeated throughout the gospel of Mark, appearing nearly forty times. It means “immediately.” Although the shortest of the four gospels, the book of Mark wastes no words portraying the Savior as a servant to others. The tone is practical, which appealed to the Roman mind. We want to observe the Servant at work in this account of His life, noticing especially how clearly the key verse of the book (Mark 10:45) outlines the two major phases of His earthly existence and ministry.



Discovering the Way

1. General Observations of Mark's Gospel

Understanding the author and his style—especially what he emphasized and what he omitted—can prepare us to get the most out of Mark's account of the life of Jesus.

2. An Overview of the Book

We can divide Mark's gospel into four sections: the Servant introduced and prepared, the Servant at work, the Servant resisted and rejected, and the Servant triumphant and exalted.

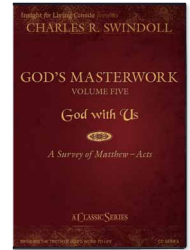


Starting Your Journey

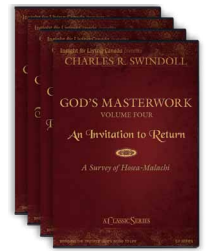
The book of Mark reveals three insights for today: if Jesus is our model, then servanthood is the method; if servanthood is the method, then people are our ministry; and if people are our ministry, then involvement is the means.



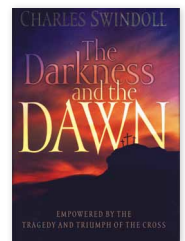
Tools for Digging Deeper



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MARK

	Introduction and Preparation A brief introduction sets Jesus's ministry in motion. John the Baptizer prepares the way. Jesus is tempted in the wilderness. <i>CHAPTER</i> 1:1–13	The Servant at Work An unbroken chain of events reveals Jesus helping people in need. Because people are in darkness, He enlightens. Because people are sick/afflicted, He heals. Because people are without hope, He encourages. Because people are in bondage to satanic control, He liberates. Because people are sinful, He forgives. <i>CHAPTERS</i> 1:14–8:30	The Servant Rejected . . . Then Exalted A growing discontent among the authorities leads to Jesus's suffering and death. He presses the claim, "Messiah." He spends more time alone with His disciples. He comes into open conflict with His enemies. He is hated, deserted, tortured, crucified, and buried. He is raised bodily from the dead! <i>CHAPTERS</i> 8:31–16:20
Emphasis	Service to others		Sacrifice for others
Scope	Ministry to the multitudes		Ministry to the Twelve
Sections	Action . . . reaction . . . confrontation		Revelation . . . crucifixion . . . exaltation
Theme	Jesus is the Suffering Servant, who gives His life to save the world.		
Key Verse	10:45		
Christ in Mark	Jesus suffered and died so that salvation would be available to all people (10:45).		

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