

CONTENTS



Map: Palestine from 6 to 44 C.E.	ix
Preface	xi
List of Figures	xiii
Principal Abbreviations	xv

MARK 1:1–8:21: A TRANSLATION

INTRODUCTION

Author	17
The Papias Testimony	21
Setting: The Markan Community	25
A Topical Gospel	25
A Persecuted Community	28
A Roman Gospel?	30
A Syrian Gospel?	33
Date	37
Gospel Relationships	40
The Synoptic Problem	40
The Minor Agreements	45
Secret Gospel?	47
Did Mark Use Q?	51
Mark and John	53
The <i>Gospel of Thomas</i>	54
Markan Composition	57
Raw Materials	57
Conservative Redactor or Creative Theologian?	59
Literary Outline	62
Genre	64
The Place of Mark in Christian Life and Thought	70
Mark in the History of Religions	70
Mark's Apocalyptic Eschatology	71
The Cosmic Battle	72

Mark and Paul	73
Corrective Christology	75
The Approach of This Commentary	80

BIBLIOGRAPHY

TRANSLATION, NOTES, AND COMMENTS

The Markan Prologue (1:1-15)	137
Introduction	137
The Beginning of the Good News (1:1-3)	141
The Ministry of John the Baptist (1:4-8)	149
The Baptism of Jesus (1:9-11)	158
Jesus in the Wilderness (1:12-13)	167
Jesus' Inaugural Preaching (1:14-15)	171
First Major Section (1:16-3:6)	
The Honeymoon Period (1:16-45)	177
Introduction	177
The Call of the First Disciples (1:16-20)	179
The Opening Battle (1:21-28)	186
Healings in Peter's House (1:29-34)	195
Departure on Mission (1:35-39)	201
Jesus Heals a Man with a Skin Disease (1:40-45)	205
The Opposition Asserts Itself (2:1-3:6)	212
Introduction	212
Jesus Heals a Paralytic (2:1-12)	215
Jesus Eats with Tax Collectors and Other Sinners (2:13-17)	224
The New and the Old (2:18-22)	232
The Lord of the Sabbath (2:23-28)	239
Jesus Heals on the Sabbath (3:1-6)	247
Second Major Section (3:7-6:6a)	
Introduction: The Struggle Intensifies	255
The Spreading Impact of Jesus (3:7-12)	257
The Commissioning of the Twelve (3:13-19)	262
Which Side Is Jesus On? (3:20-35)	269
The Parabolic Discourse about the Dominion of God (4:1-34)	288
Introduction	288
The Parable of the Sower (4:1-9)	291
Why Jesus Speaks in Parables (4:10-12)	298

The Interpretation of the Parable of the Sower (4:13–20)	307
The Parables of the Lamp and the Measure (4:21–25)	314
Two More Seed Parables (4:26–34)	322
Jesus Overpowers a Storm (4:35–41)	332
Jesus Heals a Demoniac in a Gentile Region (5:1–20)	341
Jesus Heals a Woman and Raises a Girl to Life (5:21–43)	354
Jesus Is Rejected in His Hometown (6:1–6a)	373
Third Major Section (6:6b–8:21)	
Introduction: Feasts	381
The Disciples Are Sent Out on a Missionary Journey (6:6b–13)	382
The Martyrdom of John the Baptist (6:14–29)	391
Jesus Feeds Five Thousand Men (6:30–44)	404
Jesus Walks on the Sea (6:45–52)	421
More and More Healings (6:53–56)	435
Jesus Argues with the Pharisees About Scripture and Tradition (7:1–15)	439
What Really Defiles a Person (7:17–23)	454
Jesus Grants a Gentile Woman's Request for Healing (7:24–30)	461
Jesus Heals a Deaf-Mute (7:31–37)	471
Wilderness Feeding, Testing, and Incomprehension (8:1–21)	482
Introduction	482
Jesus Feeds Four Thousand People (8:1–9)	486
Jesus Is Put to the Test by the Pharisees (8:10–13)	498
Jesus Rebukes His Disciples for Misunderstanding (8:14–21)	506

APPENDICES

The Scribes and the Pharisees	519
The Messianic Secret Motif	525
The Son of Man	528

GLOSSARY	533
----------	-----

INDICES	537
---------	-----