

My Beloved Son

Mark 1:9-13

Into the Lesson:

Of the 54 times the adverb "immediately" is used in the Bible, 12 of them occur in Mark's Gospel (Bible Gateway app N.I.V.). Spend some time reading those occurrences to get a sense of the urgency of this letter:

Mark 1:30-

Mark 2:8-

Mark 5:42-

Mark 6:45-

Mark 9:20-

Mark 10:52-

Mark 1:42-

Mark 5:29-

Mark 6:27-

Mark 6:50-

Mark 9:24-

Mark 14:72-

How does this provide a glimpse of the personality of the author (both human and Divine)?

Into the Word:

With a bible map, track the distance Jesus traveled to come to John the Baptist.

Without social media, or even a landline, what does the distance traveled indicate about John's preaching?

How about the number of people responding to his message (Matthew 3:5-7)?

Read Isaiah 64:1-7 then reread Mark 1:9-13 for the fulfillment of this prophecy given over 600 years before Jesus' incarnation.

While fully God, what can we learn from Jesus (the man's) response to John and his preaching?

How does the image of a dove descending upon Jesus further speak of His nature?

Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13 provides a "bigger picture" of the temptation of Christ. How does Mark's *Reader's Digest* version of this event provide a further picture of the "let's get to it" nature of this book?

Luke 22:39-46 provides an intense picture of dealing with temptation.

How does this confirm the nature of Christ as well as the disciples?

Respond to Sam's statement< "the Old order goes away...John's gospel gives way for Jesus' gospel."

Into Life:

Psalm 2 written way before Jesus' time on earth, and way before ours but how does it serve as almost a current event for our times?

How would the concept of a "gentle dove" appeal to many in our culture?

Even after New Year's resolutions, do you think most people have an awareness of their need for repentance?

How do we convey that vital truth to those we are in contact with?

What must happen in our lives to make this truth evident to others?

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

- Hebrews 4:15-16