Verse by Verse New Testament

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Verse by Verse

- Through the New Testament at about one chapter per week.
- This will take roughly five years from the time we started with Matthew 1 back in February.

Verse by Verse

Four Gospels

- Not exact duplicates.
- Not altogether different.
- Four overlapping and interlocking perspectives.
- Each author highlights different details on the life of Christ.

Verse by Verse Mark 02



Mark 2 Introduction

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- Author: John Mark, cousin of Barnabas, associate mainly of Peter, but also of Paul.
- Date: The 60s AD is a good guess, somewhere just before or around the deaths of Peter and Paul.
- Location: Most likely Rome, if Mark accompanied Peter there near the time of his death.
- Purpose: Peter's age, imprisonment or death may have moved Mark to write, to preserve this message.

Mark 2 Key Verses

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Mark 2:16-17 (ESV)

eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷ And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Mark 2 Outline

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- 1. Healing a Paralytic 2:1-12
- 2. Calling Levi 2:13-17
- 3. Fresh Wineskins 2:18-22
- 4. Lord of the Sabbath 2:23-28

- 2:1 at home
- Most commentators think that this was actually Peter's house.
- 2:4 the roof
- In the Middle East, houses still have stairs leading up to flat roofs.¹



- 2:5 "Son, your sins are forgiven."
- We can forgive someone who does something to us.
- Only God can offer blanket forgiveness of sins, since all sin is ultimately against God.
- Jesus declares this sort of blanket forgiveness implying authority that truly belongs only to God.

- 2:9 "Which is easier ...?"
- It is easier to say, "Your sins are forgiven," but there is no easy way to check that.
- Sin was the man's larger problem as it is for all of us.
- 2:10-12 that you may know The paralytic gets up and walks, providing evidence that Jesus can also forgive sins.

- 2:14 Levi the son of Alphaeus
- Mark and Luke both call the tax collector "Levi."
- Matthew calls him "Matthew." The story is about him.
- Tax collectors were outcasts in Jewish society because they worked for the Roman authorities.

- 2:16 The Scribes of the [or "and"] Pharisees believed it was important to always associate with the right crowd.
- Levi / Matthew probably had few other friends.
- Jesus was happy to be there.
- From Christ's perspective entering the human race was to commit to a lifetime with sinners. He was OK with that.

- 2:16 The attitude we need is the attitude that Paul had.
- 1 Timothy 1:15 (ESV)

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.



He did not come to make good people better or more righteous. He was concerned about sinners, not just those who need spiritual liberation but also those who are marginalized, outcast, isolated and condemned by others. People need to experience salvation irrespective of who they are and what they do.

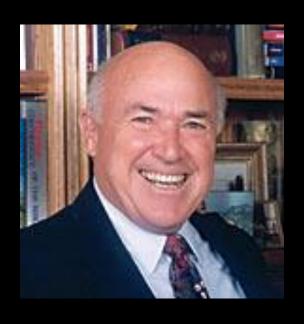
Dexter Maben,
 United Theological College, India

- Here again are our key verses for today.
- Mark 2:16-17 (ESV)

eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷ And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

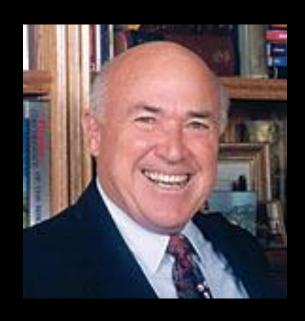
- The Bible does not really prescribe a lot of fast days for God's people, but fasting was always possible.
- Fasting has always been a part of humbling oneself before God when praying or in a time of need.
- It is a good practice and can help bring us close to God.

- By this time normal Jewish practice included various fast days, even though they were not required by Scripture.
- Jesus and his disciples were not following these customs.
- The point Jesus makes is that it is time to give true religious practice an entirely new form.



Calvary Chapel started as a movement that was truly a fresh work, outside the scope of most other churches that were around at the time. God wanted to do a fresh work, so He created a new skin to pour His Spirit into, and we got to see his blessings.

Pastor Chuck Smith (1927-2013)



But if the Lord tarries, and He takes me home before the Rapture, I hope no one tries to institutionalize what God has done at Calvary Chapel.

I don't want anyone saying, "When Chuck was here" and "This is the way Chuck did it."

Pastor Chuck Smith (1927-2013)



May God help us not to get rigid. I want to stay flexible and open. I want to see a continual movement of the Spirit of God; so I need to stay supple, flexible and pliable. If we create a rigid system, with rigid controls and traditions, then God will have to once again go outside of us in order to do a new work of His Spirit.

Pastor Chuck Smith (1927-2013)

- To be clear, we never want to become lax in our spiritual disciplines or live as if we have no need to be holy.
- We need practices like fasting, tithing, prayer and so on.
- They are all good and helpful but need to be voluntary.
- When these practices become too rigid they begin to feed a sense of self-righteousness. "Why don't your disciples ...?"

- 2:26 in the time of Abiathar the high priest
- Jesus (and Mark) are referring to the general time and/or the general section of Scripture relating to Abiathar.
- At the moment in question, David deals with Ahimelech the father of Abiathar.
- The son Abiathar became more prominent than his father.

- Keeping the Sabbath was one of the Ten Commandments.
- It became a sort of religious identity marker for Jewish people that pertained to their religion.

- The tradition gives 39 specific things that were prohibited on the Sabbath.
- With respect to grain, the following were included:
- Planting, Plowing, Reaping, Gathering, Threshing,
 Winnowing, Sorting, Sifting, Kneading and Cooking/Baking.

- Jesus is not just an average guy who listens to the rabbis in order to figure out whether or not he is working.
- He is Lord of the Sabbath.



The claim to be Lord of the Sabbath affirms the unique authority that Jesus exercises in his ministry, affecting one of the most sacred institutions of the Jewish people, linking Jesus, again, most closely with Yahweh, who decreed the Sabbath, in whose honor the Sabbath was observed and to whom the Sabbath belongs.

Eckhard Schnabel,
 Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary

• Jesus again operates as if he has the kind of authority that only God really has.

Mark 2 What We Just Read

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Mark 2 Key Verses

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¹⁶ And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷ And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Mark 2 Key Points

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- Jesus exercises authority to forgive sins and declare what may or may not be done on the Sabbath by his followers.
- He exercises authority that is truly reserved for God.
- Jesus is also happy to spend time with sinners. He wants to see them saved.
- When the forms we give to religion become rigid and stale,
 God will often do something fresh and new.
- We need to always be open to growth and change for the better. Eternity is not going to be boring!

- Heavenly Father,
- Thank you for sending Jesus to us who experienced what we experience and went through what we go through.
- He gives us a way to truly relate to God.
- We thank you also that while here on earth he exercised divine authority. In doing so he shows us that he truly is God as well as a perfect man.
- Help us to be more like him in desiring to see sinners saved.

- Help us to never consider ourselves too good for someone else. Help us to never see ourselves as better than those around us. Help us to serve them well in order to better serve you.
- Let us remain flexible, eager to grow and change for the better so that we can continuously be used by you.
- If you should decide to do something new and exciting, we want to be a part of it.

- Help us to recognize when you are working in our lives. We need and truly want to be effective in our service to you and your kingdom.
- We ask you to mold our hearts, our attitudes, our character and our desires.
- Conform us to the image of Christ,
- Amen.

Mark 2 References

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