



Description sheet of the gospel of Mark

Author

The Gospel according to Mark is written by John Marc. Although he was not with Jesus-Christ, he was approved by the apostle Peter (1 Peter 5:13). It is likely that it's this same Mark that Luke mentioned in the book Acts (Acts 12:25; 13: 5.13). Mark was not among the twelve apostles that Jesus chose. However, he was a companion of Peter and his secretary. According to some church fathers, including Papias and Justin martyr, Peter was one of Mark's main source of information.

Date

Among the gospels, Mark is considered the first to have been written. Some scholars agree that Matthew and Luke utilized Mark's material to write their gospels. Since Peter had to be alive for Mark to write his gospel, it is dated within 50-60 A.D.

Major theme and target audience

The theme developed by Marc in his Gospel seems to aim at a Roman audience. If Matthew's focus was on Jesus as Messiah and King, the heir of David's throne that God had promised to the Jewish people, Mark presents Jesus as the suffering servant who comes to serve others. He especially emphasized what Jesus did rather than his teaching. Then, it establishes the humanity of Christ more than the other gospels (Mark 1:41; 3: 5; 6:34).

The outline of Mark's gospel

It must be said that Mark is the shortest of the gospels. It is characterized by its brevity and the living history of the events.

- 1- Prologue (1: 1-13)
- 2- The beginning of the ministry of Jesus (1: 14- 7: 21)
- 3- The ministry of Jesus in various pagan regions (7: 24-9: 50)
- 4- The road to Jerusalem (10: 1-12)
- 5- The end of the ministry of Jesus (11: 1 - 16: 1-8)
- 6- Postscript (16: 9-20)